

THE North-China Herald

AND

SUPREME COURT & CONSULAR GAZETTE.

THE WEEKLY EDITION OF THE NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

VOL. LXXII., No. 1907. SHANGHAI, FEBRUARY 25, 1904.

PRICE, Tls. 12 ½ AN.

CONTENTS.

Advertisements—Latest mail dates Births,
Marriages, and Deaths, etc.
Arrivals and Departures of Passengers,
Shipping, etc.

LEADING ARTICLE—
The War 357
SUMMARY OF NEWS 358, 397

MISCELLANEOUS ARTICLES—
The Neutrality of China 365
War Notes 365
A Present Danger 366
The Journal of the American Asiatic
Association—I, II 366, 396
Ways and Means 367

REVIEWS—
"School" 368

OUTPORTS, ETC.—
Hangchow 368
Hupei 369
Laichowfu 370
Linchingshou 370
Peking 370
Tengchowfu, Shantung 370
Weihsaiwei 399
Weihsien, Shantung 371
Wuchang 399
Australia 371
London 372

MEETINGS—
The Municipal Council 399
The Trinity Cathedral 374
The Kiukiang Landrenters' 375
The Shanghai Land Investment
Co., Ltd. 404
The Shanghai Pulp and Paper Co., Ltd. 405

REPORTS—
The Shanghai Gas Co., Ltd. 377
The Lau-Kung-Mow Cotton Spinning
and Weaving Co., Ltd. 378
The Hongkong and Whampoa Dock
Co., Ltd. 378
The Weihsaiwei Land and Building
Co., Ltd. 379
The Association of British Colonials
in the Far East 405

AMUSEMENTS—
Freer's Frivolities 380
Football—
Engineers v. S. F. C. 380
S. F. C. v. H. M. S. Britomart 381
S. R. C. v. H. M. S. Rosario 381
The "Taikoo" Paper Hunt 381
Saturday's Hunt 381
Shooting—"B" Company, S. V. C. 381
The Shanghai Golf Club 381
The Hongkong Races 405

CORRESPONDENCE—
Boxers in Manchuria 381
The Engineers' Story 381
The Second Attack on Port Arthur 382
The Houseboat Question 406
The Education Question 406

MISCELLANEOUS—
Imperial Decrees 382
Notes on Native Affairs 382, 406
The Neutrality of China 383
The Wedding of a Fireman 384
Fires 384
More Firing on Neutral Ships 384
The Akitsushima Arrives 385, 407
War Notes and News 385
War Lies 387
Contraband of War 388
Shanghai Dooley's Diary of the War 388
Attempted Burglary at Shanghai 389, 407
Japan Sympathetic Fund 389
The Navy League Recreation Fund 407

Fiscalitis in Shanghai 389
Calendars, Etc., Received 389
Books, Etc., Received 389
Submarine Mines 389
Hongkong To-day 389
The Nisshin and Kasuga 390
The Anglo-Japanese Locomotive and
Engineering Co., Ltd. 391
The Battle of Port Arthur 391
Miscellaneous Notes 392

LAW REPORTS—
H.B.M. Supreme Court—
R. v. Williams 405
H.B.M. Civil Summary Court—
Lane, Crawford & Co., Ltd. v. E. F.
Birchall 393
Astor House Hotel Co., Ltd. v. H. W.
Cumine 393
U. S. Consular Court—
Papps v. Frankel 393
The Mixed Court—
Sundry Cases 408

SUPPLEMENT—
Market Report 408

The "North-China Daily News" is partly
set up by the Linotype Composing
Machine.

The North-China Herald.

IMPARTIAL NOT NEUTRAL.

SHANGHAI, THURSDAY, 25 FEB., 1904

THE WAR.

EXTENUATION has so far been the watchword of both the principals in the war in which it appears that after all the Russians fired the first shot on the 8th instant a little outside Chemulpo. The Russians have naturally extenuated their losses, and the Japanese, with a modesty that must be admired, have extenuated their successes. Naval men who had made a study of the fleets of both Powers were fully of opinion that the Japanese would get the better of any encounter at sea, but few probably expected that they would succeed in putting the Russian fleet "out of being" in the first two days of the war, without losing a single vessel themselves. Much was expected of the ardent sailors who man the Japanese torpedo-boats, and their pluck and audacity, their supreme disregard of their own lives, have been again most splendidly evinced. They revel in heavy weather and snowstorms and darkness, when the aim of the enemy's gunners is made more difficult, and as they dart to and fro at full speed, discharging their torpedoes as they pass, it must

need unusual coolness and quickness in the gunner who hopes to hit one of them.

The reports of Admirals Togo and Uriu, respectively, of the fighting at Port Arthur and Chemulpo, as so far published, have been remarkably terse; they have been supplemented by the picturesquely emotional account of the Chemulpo affair published by the "Echo de Chine," and the very graphic account of the affair at Port Arthur on the 8th and 9th instant, by an eye-witness, which appeared in our own columns. Since Japan inflicted these two crushing blows, the naval operations have been confined on the Russian side to the sinking of a small Japanese merchant steamer in the Tsugaru Strait by the Russian Vladivostok squadron of four large cruisers, after which exploit the squadron seems to have returned to Vladivostok, which is apparently already on short commons; and to the indiscriminate firing at Port Arthur on British and German merchant steamers, when trying to leave the harbour, or sheltering from a gale under the high land. The Russians have suffered severely too from their continued use of contact mines which, because of the danger they involve to those who are putting them down or taking them up, have been generally discarded. The 4,000-ton torpedo transport Yenisei with, it is stated, a stock of some five hundred torpedoes on board, blew herself up when laying one of these mines, with a loss of nearly a hundred lives, including the expert officers; and the cruiser Boyarin, sent to carry on the Yenisei's work, has also been fatally injured, but whether by the explosion of another mine, by being torpedoed by the Japanese on the night of the 13th, or by being driven on the rocks in a gale, is at present uncertain. Whatever our opinions as to the justice of the present war, we cannot but sympathise with the Russian naval authorities, whose traditional ill-fortune at sea still clings to them. Whoever is now in naval command at Port Arthur must be almost in despair. His harbour, in which his fleet lies aground at low water, is full of lame ducks, and he has only one small dock in which to refit them, while there is such a scarcity of labour there and at Dalny that he is

obliged to impress the Chinese coolies who are anxious to get away. His forts, which were supposed to render Port Arthur impregnable, are only partly supplied with guns, and he has no garrison left to man them, except the crews of his ships. Two things the war has so far shown conclusively, the value of torpedo-boats manned by daring crews; and the vital necessity of constant and careful gunnery practice. That a Russian cruiser should fire at short range at a merchant steamer at anchor for twenty minutes and not do her any serious injury sounds impossible, but the fact that the *Pronto*, after undergoing this ordeal, has arrived at Chefoo with only a few holes in her upper works proves its possibility.

The Japanese Standing Squadron has not been inactive since its first initial success. There was another torpedo attack at Port Arthur on the night of the 13th, but we may be sure that the Russians would not have flatly denied that it occurred had it accomplished anything serious. It was made in a gale of wind and a snowstorm and the Japanese themselves admit that they do not know what damage they did. We have only a Russian telegram as to the renewed attack on last Tuesday night, the 23rd. The Russians claim that they repulsed it, but we may take this as merely meaning that, as before, Admiral Togo retired after doing as much damage as he could. We do not know yet with how many ships he attacked, but a telegram to-day from Weihaiwei says that thirteen large Japanese vessels passed there going towards the Shantung Promontory last evening, and we shall doubtless soon receive the Japanese official account of the attack. It will be extraordinary if the Japanese continue engaging the Russians without losing a vessel, but we are assured that they had not lost one up to Tuesday last. There is a rumour afloat that the Japanese were towing hulks full of stone to block the entrance of Port Arthur, and these were the "ironclads" that were sunk.

The next scene of the drama will be on land. The Russians are moving down into Corea from Manchuria, and report the capture of a Japanese officer and four men, who were doubtless reconnoitring; and meanwhile the Japanese, having secured the command of the sea, are pouring their troops into the coming battlefield. The result of the first land fight is being awaited with deep interest. It is understood that the Japanese have at present a great superiority in numbers. The events at Tientsin and Peking in 1900 showed that the descendants of the samurai are as keen fighters on land as on sea. It may be mentioned as a curious commentary on the decision of our military authorities to discontinue as far as pos-

sible the use of the sword, that the Japanese officers and non-commissioned officers and some of the picked troops have been supplied with a modern adaptation of the terrible two-handed sword which the samurai of old wielded with such effect.

Summary of News.

THE German mail of the 19th of January arrived here on Monday, the 22nd instant, per N.-D. L. S. *Roon*.

A MAIL leaves on Saturday for Europe by the N.-D. L. S. *Seydlitz*.

LATEST TELEGRAPHIC INTELLIGENCE.

"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS"
Service of Foreign and Local Telegrams.

THE WAR.

ANOTHER TORPEDOING
EXPLOIT AT PORT
ARTHUR.

Tokio, 17th February.

It is officially stated that a flotilla of Japanese destroyers left for Port Arthur on Saturday, the 13th instant.

Notwithstanding a great snowstorm, and although they got separated *en route*, two of them ultimately reached their destination.

Amid the enemy's fire, they hit two Russian men-of-war, and set fire to one guardboat.

The exact result is unknown, but they did considerable damage to the Russians.—*Our own correspondent.*

THE OFFICIAL ACCOUNT.

The Japanese Consul-General (Mr. Odagiri) kindly communicates the following official telegram:—

On the 13th instant a flotilla of torpedo destroyers left for Port Arthur under a heavy snow storm.

At 3 a.m. on the following day the destroyer Asagiri torpedoed a Russian man-of-war in despite of furious firing from the forts and men-of-war, and destroyed a scout.

The Hayatori approached the entrance of the harbour and found two Russian men-of-war and, having succeeded in torpedoing one of them and seen the explosion, retired safely.

AN UNFOUNDED RUMOUR.

We have also been favoured with the following official telegram:—

The rumour that the Japanese troops landed near Kinchou and were

annihilated by the Russian troops is unfounded.

THE NEUTRALITY OF CHINA.

Tokio, 17th February.

In reference to Secretary Hay's overtures, Japan agrees to the neutralisation of China, excluding Manchuria which Russia still occupies, and Japan adheres thereto unless Russia violates China's neutrality (which she is doing by keeping the Mandjour at Shanghai.—*Ed.*), on which Japan originally insisted.—*Our own correspondent.*

JAPANESE IMPERIAL ENTHUSIASM.

Tokio, 17th February.

The Emperor has announced that the ancient gold and silver treasures of the Palace are to be utilised for the War Fund.—*Our own correspondent.*

A REPORTED RUSSIAN WARNING TO GREAT BRITAIN.

London via Bombay, 17th February.

It is stated at St. Petersburg that General Ivanoff, Governor of Turkestan, has been instructed to prepare for possible military action in the direction of India, in the event of Great Britain adopting an attitude of open hostility to Russia, or attempting any enterprise in Persia or Tibet prejudicial to Russian interests.—*Reuter.*

THE CREWS OF THE CRUISERS.

Tokio, 18th February.

A most cordial civic reception is to be given to-morrow to the crews of the *Nisshin* and *Kasuga*.—*Our own correspondent.*

THE MOUNTED BANDITS IN MANCHURIA.

London via Bombay, 18th February.

A telegram received at St. Petersburg says that the Japanese are bribing the Hunghutze (Redbeards) to destroy the Manchurian railway.—*Reuter.*

A RESULT OF THE FIGHTING AT PORT ARTHUR.

London via Bombay, 18th February.

Admiral Makaroff has left St. Petersburg to supersede Admiral Stark in command of the fleet at Port Arthur.

He is accompanied by a large staff, including engineers and naval architects.—*Reuter.*

A DOUBTFUL REPORT.

London, 18th February.

The correspondent of the "Standard" at Tientsin wires that a telegram had been received from Port Arthur to the effect that the Russian fleet had put "to sea."—*Exclusive service.*

MORE RUSSIAN REINFORCEMENTS.

London via Bombay, 18th February.

Six Russian men-of-war passed Gotland, Sweden, on the 15th instant, going South.

The Czar, reviewing a Siberian regiment proceeding to the front, stirring addressed the men, wishing them success, and invoking blessing on the Russian arms. He concluded by saying: "Good-bye, my brothers!"

A MANIFESTO FROM THE CZAR.

London via Bombay, 19th February.

The Czar has issued a manifesto bitterly inveighing against Japan, and declaring that much time will now be necessary in order to strike blows worthy of the dignity and might of Russia, but Japan's treachery and provocation will yet be avenged a hundredfold.—*Reuter.*

OPERATIONS ON LAND.

Tokio, 19th February.

It is ascertained that no Russian troops have yet crossed the Yalu except twenty scouts.—*Our own correspondent.*

London, 19th February.

Reuter's correspondent at Seoul telegraphs that two thousand Russians have arrived at Wiju, and three thousand at Chiulienchéng (on the north side of the Yalu opposite Wiju).

A collision with the Japanese is expected.—*Exclusive service.*

THE JAPANESE OPERATIONS AT PORT ARTHUR.

Tokio, 19th February.

Viceroy Alexeieff reports that the Russian vessels so far placed hors de combat at Port Arthur are the Tsarevitch (13,110 tons, 68 guns), Pallada (6,630 tons, 34 guns), Retvizan (12,700 tons, 65 guns), Askold (6,100 tons, 36 guns), Novik (3,200 tons, 19 guns), Sevastopol (10,960 tons, 50 guns), and Petropavlosk (10,960 tons, 50 guns).

It is understood that of these the sister ships Petropavlosk and Sevastopol were torpedoed by the Japanese in the attack in the snowstorm on Sunday last.—*Our own correspondent.*

London via Bombay, 19th February.

With reference to the attack on Port Arthur on Sunday, the 14th, a statement has been published at St. Petersburg that some 12-inch shells struck and slightly damaged the Volunteer steamer Kazan.

The Japanese believe that the warship torpedoed was the cruiser Boyarin (3,200 tons, 19 guns).—*Reuter.*

PROVIDING THE MONEY.

Tokio, 19th February.

The practical patriotism of the people is being everywhere manifested by contributions to the War Fund and subscriptions to the exchequer bonds.—*Our own correspondent.*

THE TRANS-SIBERIAN MAIL SERVICE.

London via Bombay, 19th February.

The mail service to the East via Siberia has been suspended.—*Reuter.*

BRITISH OFFICIAL CONFIRMATION.

London via Bombay, 19th February.

A dispatch from the British Legation at Tokio says that no attempt has yet been made by the Japanese to land at Pigeon Bay or in its neighbourhood; and hitherto no Japanese vessel has been destroyed, and the fighting power of the Japanese fleet is practically unimpaired.—*Reuter.*

RECENT OPERATIONS AT PORT ARTHUR.

We have been requested by the Russian Consul-General, Mr. Kleiménow, to publish the following telegram received here from Port Arthur on Saturday:—

"The official communication emanating from the Japanese Embassy in London concerning the attack of torpedo destroyers on Port Arthur during a snowstorm on 13th February is totally false. There was no attack: not a single ship was damaged nor was any vessel exposed to any attack or damage. All up to date is absolutely quiet.

"(Signed) Admiral Witgeft,
"Chief of Naval Staff."

THE LOSS OF THE BOYARIN.

London, 20th February.

A telegram from Tientsin says that after the accidental blowing-up of the Yenisei by a mine, a violent storm occurred, whereupon the mines came to the surface and floated about in all directions.

Next day the Boyarin, sent to assist in securing them, was caught in the storm, driven on the rocks, and became a total wreck.—*Exclusive service.*

THE LIAOTUNG PENINSULA CLOSED.

London via Bombay, 20th February.

Russia has informed the United States that she will not grant an exequatur to Mr. Morgan, the U. S. Consul at Dalny, because she desires no foreign officials on the Liaotung Peninsula during the present war.—*Reuter.*

THE CZAR'S MANIFESTO AND THE RUSSIAN PLAN OF CAMPAIGN.

London via Bombay, 20th February.

The Czar's manifesto admitting by implication the unpreparedness of Russia, and foreshadowing a long delay before decisive action can be taken, is much commented on.

The "Times" considers that it means a war of exhaustion, and another wholesale retreat similar to that from Moscow (in 1812), leaving Port Arthur and Vladivostok isolated.

The "Times" observes that this is a great resolve, but its success depends on the will of the enemy.—*Reuter.*

THE TREATMENT OF JAPANESE REFUGEES.

Tokio, 21st February.

Reports of the cruel treatment of Japanese fugitives from Manchuria are continually being received.—*Our own correspondent.*

RUSSIAN REINFORCEMENTS RETURNING.

London, via Bombay, 21st February.

A naval squadron, believed to be Russian, coming from Djibuti, passed Perim at midnight, going northward. This coincides with reports from St. Petersburg that the squadron has been ordered home.—*Reuter.*

URSUS LOCUTUS EST.

London via Bombay, 21st February.

A Russian official statement formally charges Japan with the violation of international law by making a series of revolting attacks before declaring war.—*Reuter.*

THE VICEROY TO WAIT AT PORT ARTHUR.

London via Bombay, 21st February.

Viceroy Alexeieff has been ordered to defer his departure to Harbin until Admiral Makaroff (who is to supersede Admiral Stark) arrives at Port Arthur.—*Reuter.*

THE "TIMES" ON THE SITUATION.

London via Bombay, 21st February.

The "Times" says that Great Britain's sympathy with Japan is natural and legitimate, and sufficient, should the improbable emergency arise, to enable our Government to give effect to all the terms of our treaty with Japan.

English sympathy is not merely grounded on the fact that Japan is our ally. It draws strength and gratification from the knowledge that Japan is fighting the battle of all the civilised nations.—*Reuter.*

COSSACKS CROSSING INTO COREA.

Tokio, 22nd February.

It is officially announced that several hundred Russian cavalry have

appeared in the vicinity of Anchyu, in North Pyöng-an province (the north-west province of Corea), and the telegraphs north of Anchyu are interrupted. The city of Pyöngyang is still safe.—*Our own correspondent.*

London via Bombay, 22nd February.

Two bodies of Russian troops are making a parallel march towards the Yalu river and Pyöng-an.—*Reuter.*

THE CHARGE OF TREACHERY AND COWARDICE.

Tokio, 22nd February.

The Tokio "Kokumin" ridicules the charge of treachery and cowardice made by the French Press against Japan, in reference to her procedure at the opening of hostilities, but believes that the Paris Government will adhere to its declaration of strict neutrality.—*Our own correspondent.*

THE CREWS OF THE VARYAG AND COREETZ.

Weihaiwei, 22nd February.

H.M.S. Amphitrite has taken a part of the crews of the Russian ships Varyag and Coreetz to Hongkong.—*Our own correspondent.*

Hongkong, 22nd February.

The Amphitrite has arrived at Mirs Bay with 140 Russians transferred from the Talbot from Chemulpo.

Forty of these are seriously wounded and go to the Government Hospital.

The steamer Namsang has been chartered to convey the remainder to Colombo, and leaves to-morrow.—*Our own correspondent.*

THE SINKING OF THE NAKONOURA MARU.

We have received the following official telegram from the Japanese Consul-General here:—

"Tokio, 22nd February.

"The crew and passengers on board the Nakonoura Maru, which was bombarded and sunk in the Tsugaru Sea by the Russian men-of-war were all, except only two, saved by these men-of-war, and they have arrived from Vladivostok at Nagasaki to-day by a German steamer."

Tokio, 22nd February.

Thirty-seven of the crew and four passengers from the steamer Nakonoura Maru recently sunk off Hokkaido returned to Nagasaki to-day by a German steamer from Vladivostok, where they arrived on the 14th of February, having been saved by the Russian cruiser Gro-moboi.

Two sailors were drowned on the spot by the bombardment.—*Our own correspondent.*

Kobe, 22nd February.

Mr. Miyamoto, chief engineer of the steamer Nakonoura Maru, which was sunk by the Russians on the 11th instant, has just wired to the Seamen's Club here, that he has arrived at Nagasaki from Vladivostok by the German steamer Stolberg, with the crew and passengers of the sunken steamer, except two hands.

Fifteen hundred Chinese and fifty-two Japanese also came by the Stolberg.—*Our own correspondent.*

THE NEW COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF IN THE FAR EAST.

London via Bombay, 22nd February.

An Imperial ukase relieves General Kurpatkin of his functions as War Minister, and appoints him Commander-in-Chief of the Russian army in Manchuria.—*Reuter.*

RUSSIAN MILITARY MOVEMENTS.

London via Bombay, 22nd February.

While advancing troops to the Yalu, the Russians are strengthening their centre, and preparing to defend the railway and the north gulf coast.

The Russians admit their unpreparedness, but are now hurrying up reinforcements.—*Reuter.*

FRENCH CHARITY.

London via Bombay, 22nd February.

All the French newspapers have opened subscriptions for the Russian sick and wounded.—*Reuter.*

THE MAINTENANCE OF NEUTRALITY.

London via Bombay, 22nd February.

The Paris "Temps" publishes an article, laying stress on the anxiety felt in both Great Britain and France to hold aloof from the war, and urging both Powers not to let their inclinations carry them beyond what is proper.—*Reuter.*

THE PROTECTION OF THE RAILWAY.

London, 22nd February.

Viceroy Alexeieff has asked China to instruct her troops to assist the Russians in guarding the railway.

The Chinese Government has replied that as Russia insisted that China was unable to guard the railway in time of peace, Russia could not expect her to guard it in time of war.—*Exclusive service.*

THE RUSSIAN CENSORSHIP OF TELEGRAMS.

London, 22nd February.

Russia has abolished the censorship for outward foreign telegrams, except the ordinary military censorship.—*Exclusive service.*

THE CONDITIONS AT PORT ARTHUR.

London via Bombay, 22nd February.

Reuter's correspondent, by special permission, has visited Port Arthur, which the Russians claim is capable of two years' resistance.—*Reuter.*

RUSSIAN REFUGEES.

Tokio, 22nd February.

It is reported that the Russians from the south of the Ussuri have gathered at Possiet and the coast, and that a portion of them have already entered Seoul.—*Our own correspondent.*

APPREHENSIONS IN EUROPE.

London via Bombay, 23rd February.

The war is evidently exciting apprehensions among the neutral Powers.

Sweden is mobilising her troops and fortifying her coasts.

Spain is sending considerable reinforcements to the Canaries, and otherwise preparing.

Portugal is sending her battleship Vasco da Gama (3,020 tons, 14 guns 15½ knots' speed) to the Far East, and appears to contemplate mobilisation.—*Reuter.*

A RUSSIAN TRANSPORT GOING BACK.

London, via Bombay, 23rd February.

The Volunteer Fleet transport Smolensk (11,850 tons, 20 knots' speed) has re-entered the Suez Canal homeward-bound.—*Reuter.*

THE RUSSIAN NAVAL REINFORCEMENTS.

Tokio, 23rd February.

In view of Japan's naval superiority in the Pacific, it is intended that the Russian squadron, before coming East, shall be joined by the new battleship Alexander III (13,600 tons, 62 guns, 18 knots) and her sister ships Borodino and Kinaz Souvaroff, which, however, will take a long time to get ready for sea.

The squadron from Djibutl passed Perim on the 20th instant on its way to Cronstadt.—*Our own correspondent.*

THE FIGHT AT CHEMULPO.

London, 23rd February.

According to Mr. Pavloff's report of the fight at Chemulpo, a Japanese destroyer was sunk in the engagement, and the cruiser Takachiho so much damaged that she was sunk by her captain.—*Exclusive service.*

* * * The Japanese official statement is that no Japanese life was lost, and no damage done to any Japanese vessel, in the fighting at Chemulpo.—*Ed.*

PORT ARTHUR CLEARED OF SOLDIERS.

London, 23rd February.

Port Arthur is now strictly a naval stronghold, and the forts are manned by naval gunners.

It is reported that there are only twenty foreigners still at Port Arthur.—*Exclusive service.*

THE NEW CAPITAL OF MANCHURIA.

London via Bombay, 23rd February.
Viceroy Alexeieff and all the members of his staff are now installed at Harbin.—*Reuter.*

THE SCARCITY OF SUPPLIES AT VLADIVOSTOCK.

London via Bombay, 23rd February.
All civilians at Vladivostock have been ordered to leave owing to the scarcity of food, the Government taking everything available.—*Reuter.*

GENERAL NEWS.

LOSS OF THE DEUTEROS.

The following telegram has been communicated to us by the "Ostasiatische Lloyd":—

Hongkong, 18th February.

The German steamer Deuteros is a total loss near Saigon. The crew have been saved by the former blue-funnel liner Laertes.

* * The Deuteros, which was trading between Hongkong and Saigon, was a steamer of 1,001 tons net and 18 horse-power, nominal, built at Flensburg in 1881. She has been running in the China Sea for many years.—*Ed.*

DEATH OF THE AMERICAN KINGMAKER.

London, via Bombay, 18th February.

The death is announced of Senator Mark Hanna, republican leader but opponent of President Roosevelt.—*Reuter.*

THE STAGNATION IN SOUTH AFRICA.

London, 18th February.

The British South Africa Company is issuing the balance of its capital, four hundred thousand shares, at £1½ in consequence of the stagnation in South Africa, and the company's unforeseen outlays and diminished receipts.—*Exclusive service.*

* * British South Africans were quoted £2½ on the 9th of January last.—*Ed.*

CHINESE LABOUR FOR THE RAND.

London via Bombay, 18th February.

In the House of Commons, Mr. Samuel's amendment to the Address opposing the introduction of Chinese labour to the Transvaal has been rejected, and the Transvaal is now empowered to proceed with the importation of Chinese.—*Reuter.*

THE DISCORD IN MACEDONIA.

London via Bombay, 19th February.

The Albanian insurgents have been routed with the loss of eight hundred killed and wounded.

The Turkish loss was heavy.—*Reuter.*

POLITICS AT THE CAPE.

London, 19th February.

Sir Gordon Sprigg has resigned the Cape premiership and Dr. L. S. Jameson is forming a Cabinet.—*Exclusive service.*

London via Bombay, 22nd February.

A new Cabinet has been formed at the Cape, with Dr. Jameson as Premier.—*i. euter.*

RUSSIA'S INTEREST IN THE BALKANS.

London via Bombay, 20th February.

It is semi-officially declared at Vienna that Russia's interests in the Balkans are rather intensified than diminished by the latest turn of events.

The idea that the war in the Far East will prevent Russia from co-operating in the pacification of Macedonia is unfounded.—*Reuter.*

THE NEW JAPANESE HOME SECRETARY.

Tokio, 21st February.

Viscount Yoshikawa has been appointed Minister for Home Affairs.—*Our own correspondent.*

A PUZZLING MESSAGE.

Tokio, 21st February.

The French cruisers destroyed referred to by Reuter on the 14th of February, are believed here to have been abandoned when sailing out to the East.—*Our own correspondent.*

ITALIAN REINFORCEMENTS.

London via Bombay, 21st February.

The Italian cruisers Calabria, Carlo Alberto, Dogali, and Lombardia have been ordered to the Far East.—*Reuter.*

A PANIC ON THE PARIS BOURSE.

London via Bombay, 22nd February.

There was a panic on the Paris Bourse on Saturday, in consequence of various baseless rumours that Italy, Germany, and France were mobilising.—*Reuter.*

CHASING A P. & O. STEAMER.

London via Bombay, 22nd February.

Reuter's correspondent at Aden reports that the P. & O. S. Mongolia encountered a Russian battleship and four destroyers in the Red Sea.

A destroyer endeavoured to cut her off, but failed in the attempt.

The whole squadron then gave chase, but being unable to overtake her, signalled to her to stop, whereupon the Mongolia stopped.

A destroyer approached and scrutinised her, and then signalled: "I beg to be excused."—*Reuter.*

THE RUSSIAN MENACE TO INDIA.

London via Bombay, 23rd February.

It is announced at St. Petersburg, in connection with General Ivanoff's departure for Turkestan, that the Russian troops in the direction of the Pamirs are to be considerably reinforced.—*Reuter.*

THE TWO NEW JAPANESE CRUISERS.

Tokio, 23rd February.

Five of the principal English and Italian officers of the Nisshin and Kasuga were received in audience and decorated by the Emperor today.—*Our own correspondent.*

PUSHING ON THE SEOUL-FUSAN RAILWAY.

London, 23rd February.

Japan has been ordering locomotives at Philadelphia for the Seoul-Fusan railway. Eight have been shipped and twelve go this week, some via San Francisco and others via Suez.—*Exclusive service.*

THE NEUTRALITY OF CHINA.

London via Bombay, 23rd February.

Russia and Japan are replying to the United States that both of them are prepared to respect the neutrality of China outside Manchuria and the actual seat of war.—*Reuter.*

IMPERIAL AUDIENCE.

Peking, 21st February.

Their Majesties granted audience this morning to the Grand Councilors, and to Prince Pu Lun, Chief Commissioner to the St. Louis Exposition.—*Special telegram.*

BY ARRANGEMENT WITH THE

"OSTASIATISCHE LLOYD."

(Special Cable Service of "Der Ostasiatische Lloyd.")

(ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.)

NEWS FROM EUROPE.

Berlin, 17th February.

China's neutrality, with the exception of Manchuria, has been accepted by the Powers, and in principle by Great Britain and Russia.

Great Britain is about to appoint, following the example of the United States of America, Consuls for Mukden and Antung.

Holland is preparing naval measures to protect her neutrality.

H. M. the Emperor has not abandoned his intention to cruise in the Mediterranean.

Father Pieper, of the Steyl Mission at Puoly, is the most probable candidate for the Episcopate of South Shantung, to succeed the late Bishop Anzer.

A Greater-Polish conspiracy, which has been managed from Lemberg, has been discovered at Warsaw.

It is reported from German South-west Africa that the Herreros have again been defeated.

18th February.

Senator Kokowzow, Secretary of the Privy Council, has been appointed Russian Minister of Finances instead of Mr. Pleske, who has, owing to his illness, been made a member of the Privy Council.

19th February.

The revolutionary Press in Russia is making the strongest attacks upon the Czar and the Government with regard to the outbreak of the war.

The Berlin Foreign Office has retorted the imputation of a Russian journalist, who was anxious to get a statement from that Office, that the responsibility of war was to be attributed to Japan; this imputation was declared to be as inadmissible as pedantic.

The German Agrarian Press is urging he recall of the Russian commercial treaty.

Russia has withdrawn from the St. Louis Exposition.

20th February.

The Russian Ambassador Count Benckendorff has left London for St. Petersburg; he will hand the Czar a personal letter of King Edward, wherein the latter assures the Czar of his friendship.

Bulgaria is apparently improving her relations with the three Empires through her diplomatic correctness. Russia is not growing weaker in her politics with regard to the Orient notwithstanding her present difficulties in the Far East.

A military transport has been derailed in the high snow on Lake Baikal, whereby a number of soldiers have been wounded. Traffic has been resumed.

The European exchanges are still very weak.

21st February.

General Kuropatkin has been relieved from his office as Minister of War and appointed Commander-in-chief of the troops in Manchuria.

The revolt in the Southern portion of German South-west Africa has been completely suppressed; the troops have started for the North to fight against the Herreros.

Through a fire at a large factory on the Boulevard Sebastopol at Paris twelve people perished and fourteen were wounded.

22nd February.

There was a large pro-German demonstration in Moscow by the people, but the German Consul only took notice thereof for the purpose of a report, without taking any part by praising Russia or finding fault with Japan. On the other hand, there was a pro-Russian demonstration in Prague against the German Consulate-General on account of pro-Japanese articles of the German Press.

The "Daily Mail's" report that the German cruisers are spying the movements of the Japanese squadron, are declared here to be a perfidious invention, because, as a matter of fact, all movements of the German men-of-war near the field of operations of the belligerents are made only with the consent of the Commander-in-Chief of the Japanese fleet.

The report of the "Figaro" with regard to secret agreements of Germany with Russia or Great Britain for the Far East are utterly unfounded.

All reports of military arrangements for the protection of the neutrality of the different Powers are most seriously exaggerated. A mobilisation of troops is taking place nowhere.

NEWS FROM EAST ASIA.

Nagasaki, 17th February.

A naval defence district has been created in the entrance to Nagasaki. Incoming ships have to stop one mile north of the Yoshima light and to wait for orders from the guardship, which is flying during the day the national flag on the top of the mast, and showing during the night two white lights one by the side of the other.

The state of siege has been declared in the district of Nagasaki.

Chefoo, 18th February.

The cable to Port Arthur has just now been interrupted.

21st February.

The landing of Japanese troops at Chemulpo is going on. There are already 15,000 men in Seoul.

The U. S. cruiser New Orleans has arrived here with Admiral Cooper on board.

The Imperial Russian Military Agent in China, Major-General Dessino, has kindly communicated to us the following telegram:—

Port Arthur, 20th February.

"Everything is quiet here. With the exception of the naval attack on the 9th February, which was repulsed, no Japanese ship has been seen here since, nor have Japanese troops been landed. Only at Wiju, near the Yalu River, a Japanese major and four Japanese were taken prisoners.

"(Signed) Major-General FLUG,
"Chief of Staff of Troops."

The following telegrams are translated by the "Kobe Herald" from the "Mainichi":—

London, 11th February.

The United States has received a message from the British Government, stating that they agree to the adoption of measures for limiting the area of hostilities to certain specified areas. Action will be taken to prevent any invasion of China proper. England and the United States will proclaim their neutrality today.

The "Times," discussing the proposals made by the United States, remarks that, although France seems to be hesitating as to the attitude she will adopt, there is reason to believe that the French Government are anxious to limit the area of hostilities.

15th February.

The British people are subscribing largely to Viscountess Hayashi's fund for the relief of the Japanese sick and wounded. China has notified the Powers that she cannot accept responsibility for the maintenance of neutrality in territory which is under the control of a foreign power.

The following telegrams are from the "Hongkong Daily Press":—

London, 16th February.

Six Russian colliers have been captured by the Japanese.

H. R. H. the Duke of Connaught has been appointed Inspector-General of the Forces, with Earl Roberts as adviser.

17th February.

Negotiations have been concluded by Russia for the purchase of some large transports at Antwerp.

18th February.

230 convicts have been enrolled by the Russians in Saghalin.

An amendment to the Transvaal Labour Bill has been defeated by 281 to 230.

The following telegrams are from the "South China Morning Post":—

Amoy, 13th February.

H.M.S. Albion, H.M.S. Vengeance, and H.M.S. Leviathan, which recently arrived here, have sailed for Hongkong again.

London, 13th February.

A letter, signed by Generals Botha and Delarey, and twelve other Boer leaders, has been cabled to the Right Hon. Alfred Lyttleton, Secretary of State for the Colonies, declaring that the Boers are opposed to the introduction of Chinese labour into South Africa.

The letter states that such an event would be a calamity of the first magnitude.

Lord Lansdowne, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, declares that the malicious rumour stating that Weihaiwei was to be used as a base for the Japanese is absolutely untrue.

16th February.

The Rt. Hon. Alfred Lyttleton, M.P., Secretary of State for the Colonies, announced in the House of Commons that protected Chinese will be stationed in the Transvaal.

Lord Milner, telegraphing on the 11th inst., gave as his opinion that the Boer attitude on the Chinese labour question was unaffected by the anti-Chinese letter for which Botha and Delarey are responsible.

The Boers are not unfavourable to the introduction of Chinese labour into the Transvaal.

Mr. John Morley's amendment was greeted with cheers and countercheers.

Although Mr. Balfour and Mr. Chamberlain were absent, the debate was one of the most brilliant in Parliament.

The Opposition consider that the position of the Government is seriously shaken.

Mr. Redmond declared that the Irish declined to commit themselves at the present stage of the controversy; but as the amendment was a vote of confidence in the Government, and no Government refusing Home Rule could have the confidence of the Irish Party, they would vote against the Government.

READINGS FOR THE PERIOD.

(Thermometers in the open air in a shaded situation in the English Settlement.)

1904.				
		Fahr. Thermometer.		Rainfall
		Min.	Max.	in inches.
Feb. 12	.....	56°.0	54°.0	.....
" 13	.....	37°.4	60°.7	.....
" 14	.....	48°.1	52°.1	.....
" 15	.....	33°.3	52°.2	.....
" 16	.....	36°.6	46°.0	0.15
" 17	.....	33°.8	53°.1	.....
" 18	.....	34°.0	56°.1	.....
" 19	.....	43°.9	61°.3	0.05
" 20	.....	47°.0	61°.1	0.11
" 21	.....	40°.5	52°.1	0.65
" 22	.....	39°.5	66°.0	.....
" 23	.....	44°.0	63°.2	.....
" 24	.....	47°.0	58°.1	.....

1903.				
Fahr. Thermometer.		Rainfall		
Min.	Max.	in inches.		
Feb. 12	39° 5	42° 6	...	0.78
" 13	32° 2	42° 4	...	...
" 14	28° 6	46° 0	...	...
" 15	30° 8	52° 0	...	...
" 16	4° 6	53° 4	...	...
" 17	38° 8	51° 2	...	...
" 18	33° 0	46° 3	...	...
" 19	29° 2	49° 4	...	...
" 20	34° 2	54° 6	...	...
" 21	32° 3	41° 6	...	...
" 22	28° 2	52° 6	...	...
" 23	33° 0	58° 6	...	...
" 24	38° 7	50° 4	...	0.09

WITH our last issue we presented as Supplement a sketch plan made by an eyewitness to illustrate the fighting at Port Arthur and the subsequent firing on the British steamer Fuping.

By the courtesy of the Japanese Consul-General here, we were enabled to present to our readers in our last issue the official translation of the Declaration of War issued by the Emperor of Japan on the 10th instant.

In consequence of the suspension of the Siberian mail, this paper will be published in future on Thursday, instead of on Friday.

M. PAUL BRUNAT, Chairman of the French Municipal Council, returned to Shanghai from Hongkong on Monday.

THE Mih-ho-loongs had a busy day on Monday. In addition to an alarm in the morning they attended Mr. Schwyzer's wedding in the afternoon, and in the evening they again turned out, this time to bid farewell, at any rate for a year, to Mr. R. Roosen. The ladders fetched him from Mr. O. Meuser's house, where he had been dining, and took him to the Club. Here his health was drunk, and finally he was driven to the P. & O. jetty. The Company musician gave appropriate selections on the way, and when the tender moved off cheers and tigers were given for the departing member, and "For He's a Jolly Good Fellow," and "Auld Lang Syne" were sung. Mr. Roosen has been a most popular member of the Company for several years, and will be greatly missed during his absence.

MR. FREEMAN COHEN, who is reported to have committed suicide at Johannesburg at the end of last month, was a prominent financier there and one of the guarantors of the Transvaal Loan.

THE mourners who gathered round the graveside of the late Mr. George McBain on the afternoon of the 15th represented all sections of the community. Mr. W. G. Bayne, Chairman of the Municipal Council, walked with the Rev. C. E. Darwent in front of the coffin, nearly all the men who are prominent in Shanghai life followed behind, and mingling with them were very many of humbler station besides a number of Chinese who were visibly overcome with grief. The bearers were former or present employees of Mr. McBain, and were Mr. J. B. Fyfe, a veteran engineer, Mr. John Ford, consulting engineer to the firm, the captains and chief engineers of the Gual and Stettin steamers, Mr. S. M. McLeish and Mr. J. Elmore. The flowers covered the ground for a great space round the grave. There was a preliminary service in the cemetery chapel, which was crowded. Here the Rev. C. E. Darwent spoke words of comfort to the mourners and told of the value of a life well lived. Mr. J. M. D.

Thomas played the three funeral marches by Beethoven, Handel, and Chopin during the service. After the coffin had been lowered into the vault and the last words of the service said, a spray of Mr. McBain's own native heather was dropped upon it by a friend, and others closed round to take their last look.

THE death of Senator Marcus Alonzo Hanna coming just before the Presidential elections in the States will greatly strengthen the chances of President Roosevelt for re-election. Senator Hanna, who was in private life head of a coal owning firm and director of a railway, a bank and a shipbuilding company, was the most influential leader among the Republican party. He engineered the election and re-election of the late President McKinley, but took exception to President Roosevelt's anti-trust policy and his habit of taking strong and independent action.

COUNT BUTLER has been so long ill that his death on Monday morning did not come as a surprise to Shanghai, deeply lamented as it is, and heartfelt as is the sympathy that is universal with his widow and child. In his long career in China and Formosa, Count Butler has made nothing but friends, his abilities, geniality, and wide kindness having endeared him to all who knew him, Chinese as well as foreigners. His recent visit home wrought no improvement in his health, and he came back only to pass away. As his name indicates, he was of Irish extraction, one of his ancestors having been one of the soldiers of fortune at whose hands the great Wallenstein met his death. Count Butler was a thorough sportsman, and a steward of the Shanghai Race Club. His funeral took place at the Bubbling Well Road Cemetery at 5 p.m. on Tuesday. He is a great loss to a very large circle in Shanghai.

* THE annual Ratepayers' meeting is advertised for the 15th of March.

THE Annual Meeting of the Shanghai Pulp and Paper Co., Ltd., was held at 9, Kiukiang Road, on Tuesday afternoon. Mr. G. Racine in the chair. A dividend of 5 per cent making 10 per cent for the year was announced and directors for the coming year elected.

THE Shanghai Land Investment Co., Ltd., held its annual meeting on Tuesday evening, with Sir Charles J. Dudgeon presiding. A final dividend for the year 1903 of six per cent on the paid up capital, and a bonus of Tls. 2 per share, were declared. Retiring director and auditor were re-elected. A full report of the meeting will be found in another column.

WE are informed that the Canadian Pacific Railway Company have reduced their rate for round trips to the World's Fair at St. Louis to £82 first class, £51 intermediate from Hongkong and Shanghai, commencing with the next sailing of the Empress of China from Hongkong on 30th March.

THE Marine Engineers' Institute gave another of its delightful dances at the Masonic Hall on Monday. It was very well attended and thoroughly enjoyed.

THE Council try by every means in their power to encourage their employees to study Chinese, and that their efforts are not unsuccessful may be shown by the fact that at the recent examination of the police force only two candidates out of about thirty failed to pass in this subject. Mr. Bland examined the candidates. A knowledge of Chinese entitles each member of the police force to a

monthly allowance of Tls. 12 for the first standard, Tls. 24 for the second, and Tls. 30 for the final examination. Great credit is due to Mr. Trevor Smith for the thorough way in which he has taught the men.

ON Friday judgment was given in the Papps v. Frankel case at the U. S. Court. The Court found that defendant was responsible for 3 months' rent of the stables and half the insurance on same, i.e., \$330 Mex. Defendant was ordered to pay costs.

AN inquest was opened at the German Consulate on Saturday afternoon upon the body of Captain Schultz of the str. Loongmoon, who was found dead in his cabin with a bullet wound in his head at about 6 a.m. on the 20th inst.

WHAT is understood to have been a fatal opium "spree" is reported at the American Consulate. A big, able seaman named McFarlane, from the U. S. Raleigh, outstayed his leave, and was discovered at a quarter to eleven on Monday night at No. 666, Tiendong Road, an opium shop. He was stupid then, and under the impression that he was drunken, his captors took him to the Hongkew Police Station. There, symptoms developed which caused his removal to Hospital, where he died on Tuesday morning. A post mortem examination was made, and a coroner's jury convened.

RAT in hole and terrier watching: hovering hawk with eye on vole:

Early bird and worm still earlier: shark that waits for Jack to fall—

Is it thus the Akitsush'ma, waiting at the river bar,

Looks intently for the Mandjour, luckless gunboat of the Czar?

Why the Dickens does she stay here, Shanghai still a neutral port?

Is it home instructions keep her, or discretion of a sort?

Many are the tales about her, some are wise, and some have wit:

All we know for truth, however, is "that Mandjour oughter git."

ACCORDING to a table sent in by Messrs. Melchers and Co., Shanghai, the number of passengers landing at New York during 1903 was 804,796. The North German Lloyd carried most of them, the Bremen fleet taking 121,687 and the Mediterranean 33,423. The Hamburg America came next with 116,920, the White Star Line next with 68,123, the Red Star 63,692, the French line 62,956, and the Cunard 52,164. For first class passengers, the N. D. L. (15,983) and the White Star (12,563) were a long way ahead of the rest. The average number of steerage passengers taken by the N.D.L. each trip was 1303, in 119 trips. The report, although published by this shipping company, is not an *ex parte* one, as it was prepared by Wm. C. Moore, landing agent, Ellis Island.

MESSRS. HALL & HOLTZ are now beginning to get their temporary premises into something like shipshape order. They expect to remain in the old Russo-Chinese Bank premises for twelve to eighteen months while their Nanking Road shop is being rebuilt. Good progress is now being made in pulling down the walls, and the Nanking Road was again open to traffic on Friday. Half the street opposite the ruins was still roped off, as coolies were busily engaged in pulling down the walls, and clearing away the debris. The whole of the firm's books were in the safes, and although they have all been badly charred, it is believed that some of them can be read.

A VERY fine Newfoundland dog with a collar on was found by some fishermen swimming in the Yangtze off Woosung, and was brought to the Harbour-Master's station there.

WE are asked to announce that the secretaries of the Weihaiwei Gold Mining Co., Ltd., have received Report No. 19 from the Mine Manager at Weihaiwei. Shareholders may see this and former Reports at the Company's Office.

THE following telegraphic information, dated the 16th inst., has been received from the Sumatra Director and Manager of the Maatschappij tot Mijl- Bosch- en Landbouwexploitatie in Langkat, Ltd.:

Daily aggregate output of Crude Petroleum	73,000 Gallons.
Crude Petroleum in Tanks at date	170,000 Gallons.
Kerosene made since the date of the preceding half-monthly telegram	65,000 Cases.
Kerosene shipped since the date of the preceding half-monthly telegram	59,000 Cases.
Kerosene in Stock at Refinery at date	80,000 Cases.

The production is smaller on account of reserve room for working during Chinese Holidays.

The Italian fleet in Far Eastern waters is shortly to be reinforced by the cruisers Calabria, Carlo Alberto, Dogali, and Lombardia. The Carlo Alberto is the finest of these boats, being an armoured cruiser of 6,500 tons' displacement. She was launched at Spezzia in September 1898, and is well armoured. With an indicated horse power of 13,266 she has made 19 knots. Her armament consists of 12 6 in. guns; 6 4.7 in.; 10 1 pdrs; 2 boat and field guns; 2 machine guns, and 4 torpedo tubes. She is a sister ship of the Vettor Pisani, launched in 1895.

The Dogali (ex Salamina) is a protected cruiser of 2,088 tons displacement. Under forced draught she has done over 19 knots. She was built at Elswick in '86, and the Italian Government purchased her in the following year. Her armament consists of 6 6 in. guns, 9 6pdr Q.F., 6 Gatlings and 4 torpedo tubes.

The Calabria is a vessel of 2,470 tons, and was launched at Spezzia in September '94. Her armament consists of 4 6 in. guns; 6 4.7 in.; 8 6pdrs; 12 1pdr; 1 2.9 in., 2 machine guns, and 2 torpedo tubes.

The Lombardia, which only left this station a few months ago, was launched at Castellamare in July '90. Under forced draught she can easily do 18.5 knots. Her armament is practically the same as that of the Calabria.

WE are informed that H.M.S. Thetis has left Hongkong for Weihaiwei direct to relieve the Amphitrite which has gone to Hongkong with Russian sailors from Chemulpo.

THE U. S. cruiser Raleigh arrived here from Manila on Saturday, and left for the north on Thursday.

THE U. S. cruisers New Orleans and the U. S. gunboat Wilmington, from Chefoo, arrived here on Tuesday.

THE Austrian cruiser Asperu left Hongkong for Chefoo on the 13th instant.

THE P. & O. S. Nankin, from Bombay, left Singapore for Hongkong and Shanghai at noon on Thursday, the 18th inst.

THE P. and O. S. Coromandel, with the London mail of the 29th ultimo, left Singapore for Hongkong and Shanghai at 3 p.m. on Sunday.

THE P. M. S. Korea, with the U. S. mail of the 2nd instant, arrived at Yokohama on the 20th instant.

THE str. Dardanus and Indrani arrived home on the 15th instant.

THE str. Bayern and Lowther Castle passed the Suez Canal homewards on the 11th instant.

THE German mail which left here on the 16th ult., per N.-D. L. S. Bayern, was delivered in London on the 19th instant.

THE str. Armand Béhic, Asama, Telemachus and Warrior passed the Suez Canal outwards on the 11th instant.

THE str. Ningchow passed the Suez Canal outwards on the 18th instant.

THE str. Patroclus, Trieste, and Cymbeline passed the Suez Canal outwards on the 15th instant.

THE str. Flintshire, Japan, and Polynésien passed the Suez Canal homewards on the 18th instant.

THE R. M. S. Empress of India left Yokohama for Vancouver on Friday afternoon.

THE R. M. S. Athenian arrived at Vancouver at 11.30 a.m. on Monday.

THE N.-D.L.S. Kiautschou arrived home on the 11th instant.

THE Tahnung Maru, which was burnt out at Wuhu and subsequently towed to Shanghai, has now been cleared out for inspection, as the result of which it will be decided whether or not it will be worth while to rebuild her.

THE C.N.S. Linan, the second of the six new steamers built by Messrs. Scott and Co. of Greenock for the China Navigation Company, arrived here from Hongkong yesterday afternoon. Like the Chenan, which arrived here on the 21st ultimo and a description of which appeared in our issue of the following day, the Linan's dimensions are: length, 300 feet; breadth, 40 feet; depth, 21 feet 9 inches; and gross tonnage, 2,250 tons. She is also similar to the Chenan in all other respects.

THE N.-D. L. S. Roon, which arrived here on Monday from Bremerhaven, reports:—Left Bremerhaven on the 7th of January. In the North Sea and English Channel had gloomy to foggy weather, strong westerly winds with heavy showers of rain and hail and rough sea. In the Bay of Biscay strong variable winds, squally weather, rough sea and high westerly swell. In the Mediterranean strong and fresh N. E. and S. E. winds, cloudy weather, rough to moderate sea. Through the Red Sea experienced light and fresh winds, fine weather and moderate sea. In the Indian Ocean met N. Easterly winds, fine clear weather and smooth sea. Arrived at Singapore on the 12th of February, left the next day and arrived at Hongkong on the 18th of February at 7 a.m. During the voyage from Singapore to Hongkong had fresh N.E. wind, moderate and rough sea and swell from the same direction, cloudy weather and several showers of rain. Left Hongkong on the 19th February at 11.15 a.m. and arrived at Woosung on the 22nd. From Hongkong to 27° N. and 121° E. had light variable winds, fine clear weather, moderate to smooth sea and light North-easterly swell, from there to Hieshan Island strong N. and N. E. winds, heavy rainshowers and rough sea. From Hieshan Island to Shanghai decreasing northerly wind and moderate sea.

WE have to thank the Shanghai Mercury, Ltd., the publishers, for a copy of "An Upheaval in Far Cathay," a novel,

in English, by Ng Hing-shang. It is a well-printed volume of 188 pages, neatly half-bound, with a glossary.

UNDER "Latest News," the "Echo de Chine" of the 15th inst. says that the death is announced of Admiral Maréchal, who was recalled by M. Pelletan from the command of the French squadron in the Far East under circumstances which evoked universal sympathy for the gallant Admiral.—The French Council has settled the conditions of a convention with Siam. Messrs. Etienne, Deloncle, Doumer and other Deputies have opposed the immediate evacuation of Chantabun.

The issue of the 18th says that the new treaty between France and Siam would be signed at Paris in the evening. Siam has made concessions to France whereby France will not evacuate Chantabun until after she has obtained possession of Fort Krat and the neighbouring territory.—The new Franco-Siamese treaty was signed at Paris on the evening of the 15th inst. Siam has made the concessions above mentioned. In this convention, Siam renounces Luang-Phrabang altogether; the French will command the Cambodian troops at Ba'tambang, Angkor, and Sisyphon. France keeps her protégés, and will evacuate Chantabun, but only after the delimitation of the frontier of Cambodia, and the occupation of Kigat. Messrs. Etienne and Deloncle are satisfied with having postponed the evacuation of Chantabun. A Commission will throw light on numerous points before the treaty is ratified.—The French Press has opened a subscription for the Russian wounded.

The issue of the 19th says that M. Pelletan, Minister of Marine, has written an open letter to M. Deloncle, guaranteeing to him that the provision of coal in Indo-China is sufficient for all naval defensive needs, and covers what may be required for all the eventualities of the present moment.—At Port Arthur the situation is unchanged. The Russian mobilisation is proceeding in a satisfactory manner.

Tuesday's "Echo de Chine" says that it is announced from St. Petersburg that on the 19th inst., a picket of Cossacks carried off a Japanese detachment on Korean territory.—The Russian cruiser Boyarin damaged herself at Dalny by running foul of a mine.

WE shall soon begin to think that something has happened to the Boyarin.

A most valuable and opportune book has reached us by the German mail, from the publisher Mr. William Heinemann, London, Korea, by Angus Hamilton, with an excellent large-scale map and numerous illustrations. In cloth, 8vo., 309 pp. The information it contains is brought down to the end of last year, and there is a long introductory chapter on Port Arthur with special reference to the present war. The price is 15s. net.

WE learn that the Rev. J. Wallace Wilson of the London Missionary Society, who has just returned from furlough in Scotland, is being transferred from the work of his mission in Chungking, West China, to the new sphere of missionary operations in the province of Hunan. Mr. Wilson's experience and linguistic capabilities should prove to be of great value in the district to which he has been appointed; his reputation as a preacher is well known in the West, and the services which he conducted when there, were always attended by large congregations. Not only intelligent Chinese, but many Europeans who were conversant with the language, attended.

Miscellaneous Articles.

THE NEUTRALITY OF CHINA.

20th February.

It is some three months since we stated in this column that in the event of war breaking out after all between Russia and Japan, every effort would be made by the leading Great Powers to persuade China to adopt an attitude of strict neutrality. Nothing is of more consequence to the Powers generally than that the war should be confined to the two protagonists and the countries that separate them, Manchuria and Corea. There seems very little likelihood of Russia's being able, if she had any such intention, to attack Japanese territory; and the only place on Russian territory that Japan is likely to attack is Vladivostok, which will probably fall a comparatively easy prey whenever Japan turns her attention to it, if the condition of things there is anything like the condition at Port Arthur. Russia, we learn, has agreed in principle to recognise the neutrality of China, and Japan will do the same if Russia keeps her agreement. Unfortunately, when Russia agrees to a thing in principle, it seems to mean that she limits her consent to the principle and does not extend it to particular cases. In keeping her man-of-war, the Mandjour in Shanghai, she is violating the neutrality of China, and is giving Japan justification for doing the same thing. If China is not strong enough to enforce the neutrality which she has been persuaded by the majority of the Great Powers to adopt, she should be assisted to do it by an international force. If the Mandjour is not prepared to go to sea, and no one would want to send her out to certain capture, she should at any rate be disarmed. At present, Russia is not "playing the game" here.

To patriotic Chinese, and there are many of them, who are really acquainted with the question now at issue, the position which China is being forced to assume must be very irksome. If Switzerland were to go to war with Germany in the hope of making the latter Power evacuate Alsace and Lorraine to France, and were to insist on France remaining neutral during the struggle, we should have a sort of reproduction of the present situation in the Far East. While it is, of course, of the greatest importance to Japan to prevent Russia from annexing Manchuria, which would be only a step towards the absorption of Corea, which in its turn would be a fatal blow to the independence of Japan, the result of Japan's efforts, her will-

ing sacrifice of men and money, will be to restore to China the provinces which she allowed Russia to filch from her. Russia did not conquer Manchuria by fair fighting as Germany did the two Rhine provinces from France. Rather is Russia like Hamlet's uncle,

"That from a shelf the precious diadem stole,
And put it in his pocket."

It certainly does not consort with the dignity of China and her old-time military prowess that Japan should fight her battles for her, and that her friends should get round her and prevent her even assisting her former enemy who has now become her best friend. China has been working hard since 1900 to remodel and drill and re-arm her troops. She has one or two statesmen with knowledge of the modern world and widening views and is believed to have one or two Generals who have made some study of the arts of war. She is well supplied with arms and ammunition, and if she were to go to war now, the disgraceful collapse which marked her struggles with France and Japan would probably not be repeated. The Chinese who know this must undoubtedly be chafing at the restraint which her friends are putting upon her. It must seem to them strange that these friends should say to her that they recognise that Manchuria is a part of China, that they recognise that China must remain neutral, and must enforce on the belligerents a respect for her neutrality, but that at the same time she must not take up arms to enforce her neutrality in Manchuria, as Prince Su is said to have recommended. Meanwhile, by not enforcing her neutrality at Shanghai, where the Taotai is waiting on the Viceroy, and the Viceroy cannot make up his mind to act, she is endangering her own future, and the safety of the strangers in her gates.

Irksome as the restraint imposed on China must be to the patriotic Chinese, it is doubtless a chain which the Empress-Dowager will hug, and it is one which China does well to accept. To declare war against Russia in conjunction with Japan would be to give Russia the right to invade her in Mongolia and all along her north-western frontier, and it is certain that she is not strong enough yet to repel the attacks that would be made on her integrity in the West. It has been a good excuse for Russia, an excuse which has enabled her to throw dust in the eyes of many worthy people in Europe, to say that her only anxiety has been to secure an ice-free outlet to the Pacific, while her real object has been, and doubtless still is, to add to her Asiatic dominions the whole of Northern China and the whole of Central Asia down to, and hereafter including, Tibet, and the Himalayas.

If China were to declare war against Russia, as we have said, Russia would have warrant to push on southward from Siberia and eastward from the Khanates of Central Asia; she can hardly do this openly, unscrupulous as her proconsuls may be, as long as China remains neutral. On the whole, therefore, the assistance of China now, as the statesmen at Tokio know, would increase instead of lightening Japan's work of re-establishing China's independence in the future, and the first consequence of China's taking a hand in the struggle would undoubtedly be the dispatch of a Russian force to Peking, for which Russia is eagerly looking for a pretext.

WAR NOTES.

22nd February.

THE Japanese cruiser Akitushima has come to Woosung to assist the Chinese authorities here in enforcing the declaration of neutrality made by the Chinese Government. In saying that the Mandjour is not "playing the game" as long as she remains here armed and ready for sea, we did not mean to imply the slightest reproach to Captain Crown or his officers. It is understood that Captain Crown is acting under the instructions of the Minister of the Navy at St. Petersburg, that the Mandjour is to remain here until further orders, and these instructions he is bound to obey, unless under the stress of *force majeure*. In this Russia is imposing on the weakness of China; it is quite certain that if the Mandjour had been at Hongkong or Tsingtao under similar circumstances, she would not have treated the order given her by the authorities at those ports as she has treated the Taotai's order here. After a long conference with the Japanese Consul-General, the Taotai here ordered the Mandjour to leave within twenty-four hours from 5 p.m. on Saturday. The Russian Consul-General asked for an extension of time, but in vain; and it is now believed that one or more vessels of the Chinese Peiyang squadron may be expected from Kiangyin to see that the Taotai's order is obeyed. It seems hard measure to send the Mandjour out to what is represented as being certain capture or destruction, and those who know Captain Crown and his officers will certainly hope that he will succeed in evading these eventualities; but the blame lies with the Viceroy at Port Arthur, who left the Mandjour here and the Varyag and Coreetz at Chemulpo. It is not merely a desire to add to the laurels which the Japanese Admirals have gathered already that has inspired the Japanese Consul-General to demand that the Mandjour be sent away or disarmed. There is a

large Japanese colony here and a large number of other people having dealings with Japan, who are suffering great inconvenience and actual loss by the withdrawal of the Japanese steamers heretofore running between Japan and China. The Japanese mail lines are quite ready to resume their services as soon as the Mandjour is out of the way, and the Japanese are within their legal right in demanding her being sent away. As to the Captain and officers of the Mandjour, they are far too good sailors not to welcome the order to go to sea, with twenty-four hours' start of the Akitsushima.

Some time before war broke out, we indicated that the Japanese programme was, first, to obtain the command of the sea, and then to proceed with operations on land. The first part of the programme has been performed; for however much Russians and their sympathisers here may strive to minimise the successes Japan has obtained on the water, it is quite certain that the Czar and his Ministers at St. Petersburg are under no illusions on the subject. The present lull indicates that the curtain has not yet been raised for the second part of the programme. Armies cannot move with the rapidity of fleets; while the latter can make easily fifteen miles an hour, the former cannot make fifteen miles a day. It will probably be three weeks or a month before any serious land action is fought. If Russia carries out the intention the "Times" ascribes to her, and retires beyond the Amur, her legitimate boundary, leaving Port Arthur and Vladivostok to their fate, there may be very little land fighting after all. The object of the Japanese, which is to make Russia evacuate Manchuria, will have been gained. Manchuria will then be handed back by Japan to China, with whom Russia will have to go to war if she wants to recover it, and then it will be for China to call upon Japan, Great Britain, and the United States, and other friendly Powers, to assist her in maintaining her independence and integrity. All this is so simple, and Russia has such a tremendous sum at stake in Manchuria, that the forecast of the "Times" is hardly credible, and it is more likely that there will be some very severe fighting with varying success before the Russian evacuation of Manchuria is enforced. It is needless to remark that Russia's loss of the command of the sea is a very serious matter for her. It is doubtful whether the single line of railway she possesses can do much more than carry the necessary supplies for her existing forces in Manchuria. To keep up these supplies and bring in reinforcements, and the supplies that these reinforcements will require from day to day, will tax the trans-Siberian line very severely

now that Russia can import practically nothing by sea. The return to Russia of the squadron that was being collected at Djibuti is a terrible confession of weakness.

Reuter's telegram of yesterday tells us that the Russian official statement formally charges Japan with the violation of international law, by making a series of revolting attacks before declaring war. There is a want of dignity, of which we did not expect Russia to be guilty, about a public complaint of this kind. Russia has only herself to blame if she did not believe that Japan was in earnest. The question of the necessity for a formal declaration of war as a precedent to hostilities we have already discussed; but it may very well be doubted whether if Japan had waited to formally declare war, the Russians would have been any better prepared than they were. We may again recall that an "Ostasiatische Lloyd" telegram was issued here on the 9th, stating that "the commanders of the Russian men-of-war have been informed by the St. Petersburg Government that they have to consider themselves to be in a state of war with Japan." If Viceroy Alexeieff and his officers disregarded or made light of all the warnings they received, and suffered accordingly, they do not improve their position by representing themselves as the victims of treachery.

One of the Reuter telegrams that we published on Saturday said that the Japanese now believe that the Russian man-of-war torpedoed on the 14th was the Boyarin. A telegram that we publish this morning states on the authority of a Tientsin dispatch, that the Boyarin was wrecked in a storm while on her way to relay the mines at Dalny. Was the Boyarin torpedoed and then wrecked, or wrecked and then torpedoed? It is admitted that at 3 a.m., in a heavy snowstorm, the Japanese were uncertain what they had hit.

A PRESENT DANGER.

23rd February.

THE war in the North has brought into our Settlements a number of very undesirable aliens, who form a very serious danger to the peace and good order of the community. The burglar who was interrupted in his raid on the store of Messrs. Sennet Frères on Sunday night was a foreigner and apparently a Russian; and he had two confederates waiting outside, by whose aid he escaped from the clutch of M. Sennet, who held him as far as the intersection of the Nanking and Kiangse Roads, but was unable to attract the attention of any policeman, or obtain any assistance from the numerous Chinese and other passers-by. We have no doubt that the Municipal

Police force is fully awake to the danger which the presence here of a number of refugees involves, and is taking measures accordingly. There should certainly be police near at hand all night in a street full of large shops with valuable contents, as Nanking Road is; but we draw attention to the outrage on Sunday night not with any intention of impugning the vigilance of the police, but in order to put the community on its guard, that it may realise that precautions, hitherto happily unnecessary, cannot safely be neglected in the present circumstances.

THE JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN ASIATIC ASSOCIATION.

23rd February.

THE January issue of this always interesting journal is mainly taken up with an exposition of the attitude of the United States towards Russia at the present crisis. It seems that Count Cassini's policy, which so far has been crowned with failure at Peking, has been equally unsuccessful at Washington, and no blow that Russia's unfortunate policy in the Far East has brought upon her is likely to be more permanently serious in its effects than her loss of the traditional friendship of the United States. Mr. Foord's opening note in his "Current Comment" is well worth reproducing in full:—

"On what seems to be the eve of war between Russia and Japan, it is comforting to be able to echo the opinion expressed by the 'New York Tribune': 'The fact is not to be disguised that the sympathies of the world, with almost unprecedented unanimity, are on the Japanese side of this dispute.' Elsewhere, in this number of the 'Journal,' we have collated the views of a number of representative newspapers, tending to show at least a growing clearness of apprehension on the part of the American Press of the natural antagonism between American interests and Russian ambitions in the Far East. All sections of the country are represented in these quotations, and there is no distinction of party in the chorus of condemnation of the tortuous methods of Russian diplomacy of which the world has recently had a nauseating affluence of illustration. It must be admitted that until the United States gets to the point of notifying the world that it has certain interests in Eastern Asia which will, if necessary, be defended by force, the influence of this country can hardly be a controlling one in any such issue as that now impending. By way of showing just how far our Government has already gone in de-

fining its position with regard to the preservation of the integrity of the Chinese Empire, we reproduce elsewhere the various diplomatic notes issued by the Department of State on this subject, which have been published since 1899. Oral communications of a character certainly not less imperative have been made to the Russian Minister in Washington, but till the Government to which they were addressed chooses to make them public, it would be obviously inopportune for the Secretary of State to give them to the world."

In his second note, Mr. Foord quotes a remark reported to have been made by certain Moscow Editors to the correspondent of the Associated Press: "The attitude of the United States has become equivocal. We do not like the dispatch of American warships. Still the Russians cannot believe that their old friends will give active assistance to Japan." Mr. Foord goes on to show that this myth of "old friendship" has been worked to death. A recent examination of the archives of the U. S. Department of State shows that it never had any foundation. Mr. Foord quotes one of the shrewdest and most farsighted of those who have ever represented their country abroad, Mr. Caleb Cushing, who wrote in 1876 to Mr. Hamilton Fish, who was then U. S. Secretary of State:—

"All the flattering and sympathetic utterances of Prince Gortchakoff sound hollow to my ear. Russia can have no ties of sympathy with us, political, religious, or commercial. She had very close ties to attach her to us until twenty-five years ago, down to which time we were her best customers, and almost her sole channel of supply for the commodities of the West Indies, but our prohibitory duties on iron and hemp have cut off that connection, so profitable to both of us, and our chief commercial relation now is one of repulsion, that of rivals in the production of wheat for the consumption of Europe. Moreover, she doubts now, since the extension of her power in the seas of Japan, whether she did wisely in ceding to us the mainland, and especially the islands of Alaska. In my judgment, therefore, the best that we can hope from Russia in the present question is indifference, and we have cause to fear, in the last resort, tendencies of rapprochement to Spain rather than to the United States."

Mr. Foord points out that while the U. S. Government has done its part in arranging outposts for commerce at Moukden and Antung, it is for American merchants to utilise the opportunities offered them, and notes that while the money for the Russian Chêngting-Taiyuan railway was subscribed many times over in Paris, the United States have not

found the money for the Canton-Hankow Railway. "The commercial horizon of the American people has been greatly enlarged of late years; their political horizon is visibly broadening, but their financial horizon is still bounded by the countries immediately north and south of them." In his final note, Mr. Foord shows that the decline in the export last year of cotton goods to China and raw cotton to Japan is really due, not to the crisis in the Far East, but to the rapid and violent advance in the price of cotton at home.

The following official table shows the values in American gold of the principal staples exported from the U. S. to China and Hongkong in the first eleven months of 1902 and 1903:—

	Cotton Cloths.	Mineral Oil.	Wheat Flour.
To China: \$	\$	\$	\$
1902...	14,973,992	2,632,430	292,288
1903...	8,571,418	2,239,358	228,529
To Hongkong:			
1902...	25,545	1,474,750	3,702,651
1903...	61,919	1,083,714	4,302,037

Another table gives the value of the imports of tea and silk from all quarters into the United States for the first eleven months of 1901, 1902, and 1903, in American gold, as under:—

	1901.	1902.	1903.
	\$	\$	\$
Tea	7,805,840	12,439,314	15,738,214
Raw silk	34,686,168	40,905,393	39,574,155

These tables are followed by an article reprinted from the "New York Journal of Commerce," headed "Panama the Gateway to Asia." The object of the writer is to show that gateways are no use unless the territories to which they give access are themselves kept open to trade; and the concluding paragraph is:—

"The President rightly regards the signing of a new commercial treaty with China as a cause for satisfaction as placing our commercial relations with the great Oriental Empire on a more satisfactory footing than they have ever heretofore enjoyed. In providing for the relief of trade by the removal of some of the obstacles which have embarrassed it in the past, in giving larger facilities to our citizens who desire to carry on mining enterprises in China, and in opening to foreign intercourse two new ports in Manchuria, the treaty is a highly valuable contribution to our commercial expansion. But it must be a barren diplomatic triumph if an alien Power is permitted to set aside the sovereignty on whose sanction the treaty is based, and to carry out a policy whose natural and inevitable result is the disappearance of that sovereignty from the face of the earth."—N. Y. Journal of Commerce."

WAYS AND MEANS.

25th February.

SOME weeks ago when there was but a threat of the war now in progress, and when the continent of Europe at least professed to believe that there would be no fighting notwithstanding the threatening aspect of affairs, the money market in Paris and Berlin was ill at ease. That of Paris in particular was nervous and excited. It had reason. The amount of French money invested in Russian securities is very large indeed, running into hundreds of millions sterling. There was therefore good cause why many French financiers should be more than usually anxious. When President Cleveland issued his historic threat to Great Britain over the Venezuelan question, stocks in the New York market fell to the extent of hundreds of millions of dollars in less than forty-eight hours. We may, therefore, easily conjure up the scene on the continental exchanges the other day when the Japanese at a blow rendered Russia harmless upon the sea. Renter informed us that the Russian Finance Minister was compelled to issue a re-assuring circular to restore something like confidence in the national securities. That such a course should have been necessary proves only too plainly the small amount of confidence reposed in Russian finances. In our war with the Boers we spent some £250,000,000, and yet were it not that consols are lower, partly for this reason and partly because people can do better with their money in other ways, there is no sign that the nation is any poorer. She has just made a new record in trade, and her world-wide undertakings are proceeding without let or hindrance. Russia at her first reverse has to take extraordinary measures to relieve the intense anxiety of those who hold her paper.

It is this nervousness, doubtless, which leads some financiers to prophesy that if the war lasts long Russia will be compelled to suspend the service of her debt. But calm consideration shows this to be unlikely. Russian credit with the Western countries must be maintained at all hazards. Her gold reserve may go, probably will go, and she will be reduced to a paper currency once more, but it is most unlikely that she will cease to pay interest on her bonds. The mere fact of her being obliged to resort to the issue of paper will reduce the value of her bonds enormously and probably keep them low for years to come, but nothing but dire necessity would prevent the payment of the amounts periodically due. The Russian government has immense resources were they only developed. So has the Czar, and these may be called

upon to provide the needful for the prosecution of the war. It will be a terrible strain, however, for the debt is heavy as it is, exceedingly heavy when the poverty of the people is considered.

The Japanese debt requires only about £1,000,000 per annum as interest, and though it is true her annual revenue is but some £29,000,000, it must never be forgotten that wealth has been growing in Japan in perhaps greater ratio than in any other country. What Japan has done in the way of progress during the past thirty years is too well known to need comment, and she has done it on a scale of taxation that under the circumstances may be considered very moderate indeed. She could raise considerably more than she does from saké and more still from an increased land tax. She has, moreover, this great advantage over her opponent; her people are absolutely united. There is but one mind, one desire, one determination in them all. Nihilists are unknown. Russia is sprinkled over with them. Japan has no ghettoes fermenting with longing for revenge, she has no enemies around her borders. She has no irons in other people's fires. All this tends to make her calm, self-reliant, confident, and willing to sacrifice everything to gain her one end. She has a cash reserve of some £10 to £12 millions, and there is gold in the National Bank to about the same amount. Without very much difficulty she will perhaps be able to raise another £20 to £30 millions at home, and with the advantages she possesses in cheap labour, cheap food for her men, and proximity to the theatre of operations, her expenditure ought to be nothing like that of her distant rival.

But, she will doubtless depend mainly for supplies on additional taxation, and this the intense patriotism of her people will make comparatively easy. Japan has enormous recuperative power. Her achievements during the past half-century are absolutely without parallel in history, and, though a long struggle will try her severely, we look confidently for her emergence therefrom stronger, more self-reliant if that be possible, and yet more serious than she has ever been. Japan has astonished the world twice already, once in 1894-5 when she demonstrated her superiority to China, and again in 1900 when she showed to such advantage in Pechili. Her dramatic success at Port Arthur the other day has paved the way to still further triumphs, and if the news be true that Russia proposes to let Port Arthur stand or fall as best it may while she concentrates at Harbin, the second great blow to her prestige is about to fall.

It has been recognised both in England and America that Japan is "fighting the battle of civilisation."

That being so, it behoves civilisation to see that she does not lack the sinews of war. Special envoys have already been dispatched to the two English-speaking Powers, and it may be that one of their main objects is financial. It would be as foolish as it would be unjust were England and America to turn a deaf ear to such negotiation. A hundred years ago we were battling in favour of civilisation, and one of our most effective measures was the subsidising of Continental armies against Napoleon on land whilst we drove him off the sea with our own ships. The retirement of Russia, supposing it to take place, will be for the double purpose of avoiding another crushing defeat at the outset, and the wearing out of her opponent by a prolonged war. It will be quite easy for the English-speaking peoples to checkmate this last move, and if they are wise, they will.

Review.

NOTICES OF BOOKS, ETC.

"School"—Vol 1. No. 1. London: John Murray. Monthly, 6d. net.

"School" is described as "A monthly record of Educational Thought and Progress," and if succeeding numbers continue to reach the high standard of this first effort we should think that it will soon have a large number of subscribers from amongst English teachers the world over. Amongst the Articles are an American Letter by a Professor of the University of Chicago, and a paper of "Impressions and Results" by the Rev. T. L. Papillon, one of the Mosely Commissioners, both of which will help towards the better English understanding of American educational methods. "The Training of Teachers" will appeal to all who are connected in any way with educational work; "The Education of the Engineer" to those who look to the education of the future for more practical results than Lord Avebury describes in his delightful article entitled "My Start in Life." When at Eton he tells us "the whole education consisted of Latin and Greek, with one lesson a week in geography—confined mainly to Italy, Greece, and Asia Minor Neither arithmetic, modern languages, science, nor drawing were regarded as essential portions of education, and they did not enter into the school course never did a sum, or had a lesson in any modern language, the whole time I was at Eton the excuse given was the great importance of a classical education the result is to give nine boys out of ten a profound dislike of classical literature."

We should like to quote more freely from this and other articles. But lack of space forbids.

Local interest in educational matters however will warrant the reprinting of the following extracts. They are not only important in themselves as showing the trend of educational thought at home, but they offer a warning to those who would introduce into Shanghai, systems

which the best and most progressive thought condemns even in England.

Thus the Rev. T. L. Papillon, writing from America as a Mosely commissioner says respecting the exclusion of Bible teaching, "whatever may be said against this exclusion upon religious and moral grounds it carries with it one advantage that educational issues can be discussed and settled and educational experiments tried, on educational grounds alone. (The italics are ours.) This attitude of mind argues not so much indifference about religion as real earnestness about education. . . . American education of a grade is eminently practical and popular. It springs from the people, is directed by the people, and serves the needs of the people. . . . Our schools cater for select few (the writer is speaking of the better class English schools), theirs for the whole people. Their aim is to give an equal chance of a sound rather than showy education to every boy or girl irrespective of class, creed, or fortune, and on the whole they are succeeding in their endeavour. Ours at present is to provide a superior article for a limited number who can afford to pay for it, not as we always successful."

The article on "The Examination Chaos" also has its lesson for Shanghai. It says: "England is probably the most examination-ridden country in the world. After an explanation of the manner in which schools came to submit to examination from without, the article proceeds thus:—"Unfortunately the head master by his acceptance of this external audit has neither saved his autonomy nor obtained the right sort of check over the teaching of his subordinates. On the contrary, external examinations, once they have been admitted within the four walls of the schools, become a veritable Trojan horse and speedily end by dominating the whole scope and range of the teaching. To-day, instead of curricula, as it should be, governing examinations, it is examinations which govern curricula. . . . At the present time external examinations are carried to such wasteful and mischievous excess that they are doing more harm than good to the advance of education, and unfortunately tell most upon the best boys."

Such plain-spoken opinion from the newest and most up-to-date professional journal cannot fail to have its effect.

We note, under the caption Reviews, that the newest of stage directions in the Geometrical drama is "Exit Euclid—Enter Ruler and Compasses."

Outports, Etc.

HANGCHOW.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

18th February.

Chinese New Year

has opened with the usual concomitants of noise and jollity. A visit to the city hill on New Year's day shows the people exerting themselves to have a good time regardless of expense. Some go to worship in the city temples; more go to see the "side-shows" to eat and drink and to enjoy their holiday to the full. Many of the attractions though vulgar, are harmless enough; such as the sleight-of-hand performances, monkey, bear, and dragon shows, etc. But there is one class of picture shows which certainly ought to be prohibited by the officials. Large frames

ade in imitation of warships or in other
rms, have series of sliding pictures,
me of which portray fine avenues, city
ews, etc.; but behind these are pictures
hose realism and obscenity can only recall
odom and Gomorrah; and to which the
ide pictures of the West are innocuous
nd innocent. The writer has observed
owds of Chinese contemplating horrid
ctures brought on the river steamers run-
ng from Shanghai, which are sold with-
e permission of the compradores. No-
e with the slightest degree of shame will
ance a second time at the pictures here
ferred to; and yet I have seen cigarette
vertisements and other pictures done
-foreigners, drawing the attention and
citing the remarks of Chinese on our
reets; and it is not strange that the
ople at large believe the worst things of
reigners, and look with avidity on
ese sliding views, which they sup-
se portray the vices of the West!
r Japanese neighbours, while vying
th Westerners in sale and advertisement
their wares, show a higher sense of the
ness of things than do our nationals,
never exposing the form or features of
eir women in their advertisements. If
t in the interest of morality, at least
[the fair name of the West and
women, our fellow-countrymen should
ise sending abroad through China the
modest pictures we too often see in
vertisements and otherwise.

Hard Times

Upon the Chinese in these parts,
hile there has not been more than the
al difficulty for many of the poor to
ss into the New Year, trade has been
ry dull; and at least ten of the inter-
ediate money-shops, or banks, have
suspended payment. Provision shops,
h as rice and meat hongs, are sure of
siness at even advanced prices; but
thing and other shops have experienced
at difficulty; some even having to put
rt of their stock in pawn, to get ready
ney. The scarcity of water resulting
n the long dry spell, has also caused
ne distress; and there is considerable
kness.

The Growth of Christianity.

It is customary at Chinese New Year for
Christians of the various denominations
Hanchow to meet in succession at
various churches, the meetings last-
ing for four days. These meetings in-
ase in size from year to year; and the
distics presented each year, by Bishop
ule, show continued advance all along
line. Within the twelve months
t, three large churches have been
lt here; one by the China Inland
ssion, the second by Dr. Main in con-
ction with the hospital, and the third
the Christians in connection with the
rthern Presbyterian Mission. The
mmodious School built by the Baptist
ssion was recently described in your
mnns. All these signs of growth are
ouraging to those who wish well for-
na: There is an increasing interest
wn by all classes in Christianity; and
h all the difficulties and discouragements
of their work, it is evident that
sionaries have been gaining more and
re the confidence of thinking Chinese.

CLARKE'S B 41 PILLS are warranted
cure in either sex, all acquired & con-
stitutional Discharges from the Urinary
organs, Gravel, and Pains in the Back
from Mercury. Established upwards
30 years. Sold by all Chemists and
Medicine Vendors throughout the
World, Proprietors, The Lincoln and Mid-
d Counties Drug Company, Lincoln,
England.

HUPEH.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Fancheng, 14th February.

The Siang-fan Cities.

Death of news has kept your corres-
pondent from writing for some time.
Lest you should think that we, in this
part of the Empire, had become extinct,
I write to let you know that

We Live,

and have no reason to do otherwise. At
peace with God and peace with man, at
peace within and peace without, and with
a fair share of good health, we are getting
along very well. Since last writing your
correspondent

Has Moved.

Did you ever Move, Mr. Editor? Not
only "move and have your being," but
really Move, Sir? I mean shift your
place of habitation, with your wife
and your children, and your servants
and your cattle, and your dogs,
cats and fowls, everything except
the rats and mice and other possible
vermin, your trunks, boxes, furniture,
everything, in short, in your house, kit-
chen, barn, scraproom, front yard and
backyard. Did you ever, Sir? If you
have, I am pretty sure you will not blame
me for not writing for a couple of months.
It would have taken some

Stirring News

to stir me during these stirring times.
On the day of our personal transit from
our old station, which was a rented one,
to our newly built station at the opposite
end of the city, we were waited upon by
eight elders of the city, who came in
chairs in gala dress to meet us and escort
us to our new home. A band of flutes and
clarionets had been hired, and so amidst
music and beating of gongs, flying
banners, and endless firing of fire-crack-
ers, your humble servant and his company
were escorted in great style. In front of
the procession was paraded a great tablet
bearing the inscription 道與帝在,
in its connection in St. John 1. 1. mean-
ing: "the word was with God," but taken
by itself, "the word and God are here."
This tablet bore the names of the elders
above mentioned, and is to be put up in
the new chapel. Among the other gifts
were three smaller tablets, a large foreign
clock, maps of scrolls, stocks of fire-
crackers and other fireworks, etc. etc.
Among the givers were the magistrate,
sub-prefect, Customs officials, business
men, literati, etc.,

Another Instance

of the growing confidence in the work
of the missionary, is a gift of 200 strings
of cash from a well-to-do old gentleman,
for the building of a school and an ac-
companying guarantee of the wages of
the teacher.

A New Chi-fu

or prefect, has just arrived. His name
is Kin-tin. He is a Mohammedan. They
say that in private he dresses in foreign
clothes, simply putting on a Takwatzi for
official occasions.

Gold Mining

is to be started in the Nanchang hsien, the
next hsien west of this. A proclamation in-
vites people who have money to become
partners with government by buying
shares in the enterprise. Foreign experts,
among them a German doctor, I believe,
are in there now prospecting. Gold
washing is carried on at our very doors in
the bed of the Han river, but the doctor,
I hear, expressed the opinion that the

deposits were too meagre to encourage an
attempt at mining on an extensive scale.

An Interesting Find.

I have heard reported that when the
doctor was in Fancheng he found in a
local medicine shop, a hippopotamus'
tooth imbedded in a stone, which was
claimed to have been found in this neigh-
bourhood. The

Annual Conference

of the Swedish American Mission has just
been held in Fancheng. The reports
given were all very encouraging, exhibiting
as they did a steady forward movement
in all branches of the work: Church
membership had increased; Evangelists
had been trained and were ready to be
sent out: a new station had been opened,
others about to be; new buildings had
been erected; the hospital work had
developed; the high school had been
well attended by outside students, who
paid for their board and tuition; the
girls' school had made progress; a book
depôt had been opened and a goodly
amount of literature been sold, etc, etc.,

Surveying Tibet,

the story of a secret service, is an
article in the "Herald" just to hand. It
has a special interests to me, as my first
four years of missionary work was on the
Indo-Tibetan border, with Tibet as my
objective. In Darjeeling I lived half a
year in the house of one of these secret
service men. In memory of his two visits
to Lhasa, "the Seat of the Gods," he
had named his house Lhasa Villa. The
gentleman was a Bengali Baboo, named
Sarat Chandra Das (servant of the sun
and moon). He had entered Tibet as a
Buddhist devotee. Being dressed in
Tibetan clothes, and having a perfect con-
trol of the Tibetan language, and bear-
ing with him recommendation to the
head lamasseries on the road, from
the high-priest of all Buddhists on
the Indian side of the Tibetan frontier,
Sherab-Gyamtsa, whose temple was at
Ghoom, and who when an octogenarian, as-
sisted me in my studies of the Tibetan
language. Mr. Das' first trip was a
great success, and he spent three months
in Lhasa. That was late in the 70's. Some
years later he made a second visit. His
purpose was detected, and though he
managed by a hasty flight to make his
escape into Sikkim, all those who had in
any way abetted his journey were taken,
with their whole households, including
servants, and relentlessly slaughtered. He
told me himself, that thus perished near-
ly three hundred souls, among them
priests and officials of different grades.

Snow

has been falling to the depth of a few
inches, to the great delight of officials and
people.

**HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND
PILLS.** Diseases and casualties incidental
to youth may be safely treated by the
use of these excellent Medicaments
according to the printed directions folded
round each pot and box. Nor is this
Ointment alone applicable to external
ailments; conjointly with the Pills it
exercises the most salutary influence in
checking inflammations situated in the
interior of the body; when rubbed upon
the back and chest it gives the most
sensible relief in asthma, bronchitis,
pleurisy, and threatening consumption.
Holloway's remedies are especially ser-
viceable in liver and stomach complaints.
For the cure of bad legs, all sorts of
wounds, sores, and likewise scrofula and
scrofulic affections, this Ointment pro-
duces a cooling and soothing feeling most
acceptable to the sufferer.

Recruiting

is going on. Orders for 400 new recruits for Wuchang have reached here, and great numbers of young men of all crafts are flocking to "Chi Liang" or "Tang Lao-yie" as they jocosely put it.

The Hsian Mailroute

has again been altered, mails for Hsian going by the Lu-Han Railway to Chiohs'an, thence by couriers over Nanyangfu to Loohokou on the Han River, and thence up as before.

LAICHOUFU.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

10th February.

On the Watch.

The Japanese are certainly watching the movements of the Russians very carefully these days. Only a few days since my servant handed me a calling card announcing the arrival of a gentleman from Nagasaki. His dress and language did not reveal his nationality. He showed me his passport, and said that he was making the trip from Tientsin to ascertain whether or not there are any Russians in the interior.

Barefaced Robbery.

The people in the city and the country around have suffered much at the hands of robbers during the winter. Some of the latter were very bold and stole one thousand taels from the county official. Fortunately a police force of sixty soldiers has been stationed here recently to restore order. They are a formidable-looking lot of fellows from the western end of this province, but are uniformly polite and well-behaved. Since their arrival the streets have been cleaned and the robbers have gone elsewhere.

The New Prefect

has shown himself quite friendly to foreigners, thanks to the foreigners living at Chiningchou, from whence our official comes. All the walls and halls about the yamen were in a most dilapidated state, but since the arrival of the new official all is changed, the walls have been laid up and the wood-work treated to a new coat of paint in honour of the New Year.

LINCHINGCHOU.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

4th February.

Duping a D. M.

The average District Magistrate thinks himself an excellent student of human nature; for is it not his province to judge cases in court and does he not continually meet with all sorts and conditions of men? Recently, however, there was a case near here where the D. M. did not figure to good account. A few weeks ago there entered the town of Weichiawan a traveller with his cart. The next morning, or perhaps better, in the night, the traveller rose, and demanded of the watchman that the gate be opened that he might go on his way. The watchman complied, and half an hour later the said traveller returned, saying he had been robbed of 275 taels a few li from the town. The District Magistrate was fortunately not far off, and to him the traveller applied for justice. The D. M. questioned him closely as to where he was from, where bound for, etc., all which questions

our traveller answered promptly. Where he came from does not matter, but he said he was bound for the east suburb of this city, having business with the Roman Catholic priests there. At the mention of foreign preachers the hair of the D. M. may be said to have stood on end, and he hastened to rid himself of his unfortunate guest by giving him several good chunks of silver to meet travelling expenses. Had he taken pains to investigate, perhaps the affair would have terminated differently, as there is not and never has been a Roman Catholic mission in the said suburb.

False Professors.

We are reminded that the Catholics in Tungch'angfu and other cities are putting forth every effort to rid themselves of the unworthy members who entered the church during the times of confusion following the Boxer outbreak. Several teachers have been arrested, and others wear anything but a jocular air. Not long since at Tungch'ang, fifteen highwaymen were arrested who gave information as to seventeen others. The Court thought it best as the men claimed to be Catholics to ask the priest to call. He did so, but only to say that the men should be dealt with according to Chinese law.

Calendar Quotations.

The Chinese go by the almanac. If snow for example, does not fall at the time appointed, then grain rises in price, as it has done here quite recently. The jump in one day was some fifteen per cent.

PEKING.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

13th February.

Commencement Exercises.

On the evening of the 10th February, the Peking University held its annual closing entertainment. The large church at the Methodist compound was handsomely decorated, and there was a large audience of foreigners and Chinese. Sir Robert Hart's band furnished the music for the occasion, and their efforts were appreciated. Four young men received diplomas, two of whom made addresses in English and two in Chinese. They made a good appearance on the platform and did great credit to their instructors. This institution is in a prosperous condition and is making large plans for the future. Students are applying in goodly numbers for admission, some of whom have tried the Government University and find it wanting.

The closing exercises of the Bridgman School for Girls were held at the American Board compound on the 11th February. The Church was prettily arranged with the flags of China and the United States, and flowers were in abundance. Four girls were graduated. Their essays were well prepared and indicated a good deal of thought and study. This is the oldest school for girls in China and began its existence in Shanghai many years ago. It is planned soon to elevate the standard of the school so that it can properly be called a college. Owing to the educational union completed between the Presbyterian and Congregational ladies, the school would have a large constituency, and it would meet a great need. These graduates are in immediate demand, as teachers and the supply is insufficient. The singing was a marked feature of the entertainment and was highly enjoyed by the audience. The Chinese are not a

musical people and it requires no small amount of training for even four young women to sing the parts in harmony.

Peking Quieter.

The victories by the Japanese have done much to quiet the people in Peking. It is well known that the Court has been removing many of the valuables in the palace for some time past. Where they have been taken to, no one seems to know. Also messengers have been sent out on the roads to both Hsian and K'ai-feng to see that the Hsing Kungs or Travelling Palaces are in order in case of a sudden move. These movements have caused considerable uneasiness. There is no doubt that the Foreign Ministers have given persistent advice to the Waiwupu against any removal of the Court, as that would probably cause anarchy in the city. The poverty of the people is so great and the mal-administration of justice in the courts so marked that it would not take much of an occasion to cause revolt and confusion in the city. Prof. Jenks is pushing his mission with great energy, but the diversion caused by the war interferes with the Chinese putting their minds to intricate questions of finance. It is reported that he is to have audience with the Emperor in a few days.

TENGCHOUFU, SHANTUNG.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

12th February.

The March of Education.

So quietly does our daily life pass in this little promontory city that we hardly realise that in matters of conservative educational reform we are really among those who are advancing. We would hardly call this an educational centre, as these terms are usually defined, but considering the size of the city (perhaps 30,000) we may safely say, were we a larger city and had schools in proportion, such terms might be justly applied to us. In addition to Tengchow College and its preparatory department, there are two girls' boarding schools, and a goodly number of flourishing day schools scattered throughout the city. But at the present time I have mainly in mind the two flourishing Government schools. Few cities have been more fortunate in securing officials who, while in sympathy with Chinese ideas, are at the same time intensely interested in Western Studies, and who with marked ability are able to put their interest into action. Under the patronage of these officials two schools have been established, one middle school and one preparatory, with a present attendance of about forty pupils each. The middle school was opened over a year ago and the preparatory school this last autumn, and in both cases they were able to secure teachers who had extended experience in Tengchow College and who were originally graduates of that institution. Other cities in the Province have made a beginning in educational work, but few, perhaps one or two outside of Chinanfu, have two schools and we have reason to believe that few, if any, have such high grades and such strict and intelligent supervision. We hear of other cities in the Province where attempts have been made to start schools, but as soon as it was found that personal financial interests were not to be advanced, interest in education

advance faded away. It is to be regretted that in these schools, as in all Government Schools so far as we have been able to observe, the willing attendance of students is conditioned on receiving a monthly stipend. This will probably continue as long as the present policy of those in higher authority continues. Let it once be known that western topics will without doubt aid in securing a degree and the students, without the drawing power of a monthly allowance, would come trooping in so that the temple schools of the Empire would not be able to contain them. Until that day does come the earnest attempt of the zealous under-officials will fail in great measure.

Tengchou College is just entering on its last half-year in this place. The opening of the next autumn term will in all probability be at Weihsiensien. With just pride the College can look back over more than a quarter-century's service: and with confidence look forward to larger service and wider opportunity in its new location in the centre of this province.

The Russian Peril.

Rumours of war constantly reach us and naturally awaken all manner of speculations as to what will happen to this particular spot if war breaks out, and in general what will be the outcome of such a conflict to the world. To the native the first thought is that war will cut off the supply of Manchurian grain, and food stuffs, already doubled in price from a few years ago, will still increase to the point of causing intense suffering. Hundreds of Shantung men are now in Manchuria. In the event of war these will flock back, possibly bearing such tales as will arouse the populace and thus make living uncomfortable for those of an alien race. To the student of the larger meaning of the conflict and its effect on the world's civilisation, the nightmare of a "Yellow Peril" seems to grow less and less, while the possibility of a Russian victory makes more evident what a "Russian Peril" might be. It is hard for some intelligent Chinamen whom we have met to understand how some of the Western nations are so little in sympathy with Russia, for is not Russia western, and European? For ourselves we prefer a Japanese victory with a Japanese-trained China rather than a Russian success followed by the training of the forces of China to aid in conquests to the West and South of the land of the Bear. Under Japanese leadership, and the good offices of other mercantile nations, China in the next twenty years might be brought to sympathise with the spirit of the West, and thus the Yellow Peril would fade away.

WEIHSIEN, SHANTUNG.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

14th February, 1904.

An Unusual Visitor

is at this city to-day in the person of Mr. John G. Meyers of Merida, Mexico, who represents the hemp industry of Yucatan.

Mr. Meyers is seeking advice and information relative to the best available Chinese labour for his large plantation. He has already made some experiments with coolie labour from Fukien and Canton, but finds the greatest drawback in

the abnormal conditions attendant upon men emigrating to Yucatan without their families. This, of course, is the invariable habit of Chinese in removing to a new environment. The men go first and "look see," and should the new place of residence prove desirable they send for their families. The annoyance to the promoters of such colonisation is that the coolies thus imported without domestic influences become dissipated and generally demoralised during the process of acclimatisation. Mr. Meyers kindly presented the writer with a set of sixteen photographic views of plantation life, showing the many processes of cultivating hemp and preparing it for market. The thatched houses for the labourers remind one of the adobe buildings in China with their slat windows and narrow verandahs.

Other views show the provision made for the higher needs of the workmen and their families, such as schools and churches. Another interesting feature is a large outdoor bathing pool overshadowed by tropical trees. It seems from our visitor's account that some ten thousand or more families are needed for the work of developing the plantations. It is a most laudable enterprise and we hope the promoters may be successful in their very humane methods of going about with the always difficult task of colonisation. It is questionable whether John Chinaman will be allured away from his ancestral plot of ground with his family, bag and baggage, until he has first had a chance to taste the flavour of life so far away from home. In short his dilemma is expressed in the adage: "He who is without ties and cares is called a wanderer amidst rivers and lakes."

Rumoured Police System for Shantung.

There is a story afloat to the effect that Germany has secured the right to inaugurate a uniform system of police in all the cities of this province. Quite apart from any political significance this may have, it is certainly a scheme of good promise for better protection to life and property, and if honestly carried into effect will merit the applause of the Chinese. It is only fair to the Germans to say that the Chinese under their jurisdiction in the Kiaochow colony are becoming more and more reconciled to foreign rule, and repeatedly commend the impartial system of civil government already existing in and around Tsingtao. A common saying among the Chinese subjects of German-Shantung is: "The coolie is as good as the Emperor." This speaks volumes for the impartial administration of justice, and it is the conviction of the writer that a general police system along the same lines would tend to the benefit of the whole province.

AUSTRALIA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Melbourne, 11th January.

The Eastern Crisis.

It is only within the last fortnight or so that public attention here has been directed towards the Eastern situation. But one or two incidents that have occurred locally are bringing home the serious state of affairs. The Orient steamer "Omrah" arrived here recently from England, and two of the officers who are on the active list of the Naval Reserve, were immediately transhipped to a homeward-bound vessel of the same Company. The Australian fleet at pre-

sent at anchor in Hobart, Tasmania, is being rapidly organised on a war footing in view of possible contingencies. The N. S. W. Agent at Tokio has cabled for tenders for supplying 1,000 tons lead, and a million pounds of preserved beef. Commander Colquhoun of the Victorian Navy has been appointed cable correspondent of the "Times" at Tokio. The necessary leave of absence was sought for and granted by the Minister of Defence, and the commander is already en route for Japan. Many offers have been received by the Japanese Vice-Consul in Melbourne, from men desirous of serving under the Japanese flag. These offers mostly come from men who have seen service in South Africa, in one or other of the contingents of mounted troops sent from Australasia.

A Disastrous Collision.

A disastrous collision unfortunately attended by loss of life occurred in Bass' Straits early on X'mas morning, during foggy weather. The steamer Coogee, employed in the Melbourne-Launceston trade and inward-bound to the former port, met and collided with a large Italian sailing ship, the Fortunato Figari, which was then on a passage in ballast from Melbourne to Newcastle N.S.W. The sailing vessel, which seems to have had little or no way on her at the time, as sail had been reduced on account of the thick weather, raked the Coogee with her bowsprit, and swept the steamer's deck, from forward as far aft as the engine room skylight, carrying away masts, funnel, bridge, boats, etc. The collision happened shortly after 4 a.m. at which hour of course the majority of the passengers, thirty-four in number, were asleep in their berths. The captain, and the quartermaster at the wheel were killed by the impact, both being pinned amongst the wreckage; the captain's death must have been instantaneous as his body was recovered later, mangled almost beyond recognition. The quartermaster when found was alive but badly injured, and lived only an hour and a-half after the collision. The second officer who was on watch was more fortunate. He was badly knocked about, but is making fair progress towards recovery at the Melbourne Hospital. A scene of the wildest confusion appears to have taken place whilst the two vessels were locked together. It was assumed that the captain had been knocked overboard, and the crew made for the sailing ship, leaving the steamer temporarily under the charge of the chief engineer, who took all the necessary steps for the vessel's safety. An hour afterwards, having got the sailing ship's boats into the wake, the crew returned to the Coogee and transferred their passengers to the sailing ship, which then took the crippled steamer in tow and proceeded towards the Port Phillip Heads. Later it was found that the Coogee could make way for herself under easy steam and the positions were reversed, the steamer taking the sailing ship in tow, and in this fashion they proceeded, until the tugs which were early advised of the accident from the coastal lookout station, appeared on the scene, and took charge of the disabled windjammer. The "Coogee" was brought up to her berth in the river on the Saturday afternoon, and on that day and the following Sunday attracted huge crowds of curious sightseers, who at first glance could scarcely recognise in the battered wreck, the once trim little vessel which during her career of fourteen years has made nearly 900 trips across the straits. The

remains of the captain and his helmsman were buried on the following day, the funeral being attended by representatives of all the shipping firms of the port. The official inquiry has been opened, and adjourned pending the recovery from his injuries of the second officer. A writ has also been issued on behalf of the owners of the *Fortunato Figari* against the owners of the "Coogee" (Messrs. Huddart, Parker & Co. of Melbourne) claiming £6,000 damages sustained by their vessel. The sailing ship's stem has been cut clean away from immediately underneath the bowsprit and extending several feet under water. The adjacent plates are of course badly broken, but fortunately her collision bulkhead saved the ship. The damage will take several weeks to repair, and altogether she will suffer some months' detention on her voyage.

The Boiler Explosion on a Warship.

Another maritime accident has to be chronicled this week, this time to the third class cruiser *Wallaroo*, one of the vessels specially built for this station. The *Wallaroo* in company with her sister ship the *Tauranga* had been in Jervis Bay going through their quarterly gunnery trials, and the two vessels were proceeding in company to join the Admiral with the remainder of the fleet at Hobart. Departure was taken from Jervis Bay on Tuesday 5th January, and by 2 p.m. on the 6th the two ships were just about clearing the New South Wales coast to the southward of Cape Howe. At this time the watch on deck on the *Wallaroo* noticed a cloud of steam issuing from the forward stokehold ventilators. It was at once seen that an accident had occurred below. The cries of wounded men could be heard and a man almost blinded and badly scalded groped his way out of the engine room and collapsed on deck. Volunteers were at once on hand, and donning sea boots made their way into the forward stokehold. This compartment was found to be eighteen inches deep in boiling water, and almost covered by it was found the body of one of the unfortunate stokers who had been on watch in that portion of the ship. In all, four men were killed outright or died within a few hours of the accident, whilst three more were badly injured by the boiling water. Signals for medical assistance were made to the "Tauranga" and promptly responded to, and the injured made as comfortable as possible.

Towards evening the two vessels parted company, the *Tauranga* continuing on her voyage to Hobart, whilst the *Wallaroo* altered her course to the northward, making for Sydney. The bodies of the four deceased stokers were committed to the deep, during the passage up the coast, Captain Hewitt of the *Wallaroo* reading the burial service.

The Cause of the Accident.

After the injured had been removed from the stokehold, the engineers cooled the place down with salt water, in order to allow of an inspection. It was then found that the top of the combustion chamber of the port boiler had collapsed, allowing its contents to escape into the furnace. The ash pit was blown out with great force, bringing up against a bulkhead several feet away, and pinning one of the deceased stokers underneath. Capt. Field in charge of the Naval Depot at Garden Island, made complete arrangements for the reception of the wounded, immediately the news was received from down the coast, and detailed the gunboat *Sparrow* to meet the *Wallaroo* outside the Heads

in case further assistance was necessary. The wounded men were, on the *Wallaroo's* arrival, immediately transferred to a specially prepared ward in the Sydney St. Vincent's Hospital. An expert inquiry into the cause of the accident is to be held at once.

Cricket.

The second test match Australia v. England recently concluded on the M.C.C. ground resulted in a victory for Warner's team by 185 runs. Throughout it was a most unsatisfactory game. England won the toss and scored 326 for 6 wickets. Rain then fell heavily, and on resuming, the remaining wickets added only 9 more to the score. Australia followed on a sticky wicket and managed to put up 127, of which 79 were due to Trumper, who played a magnificent innings. Following on, the visitors concluded another unsatisfactory innings, and Australia did likewise, leaving the victory in their rivals' hands. The next match commences in Adelaide on the 15th January. England requires only another win to score the rubber.

Rival Strong Men.

Two strong men are now exhibiting their prowess in rival Melbourne shows. "Atlas," in company with his sister "Vulcana," is appearing nightly at Rickards' opera House, whilst Herr Pagel twists his two cwt. dumbbells at Wirth's Circus. A challenge recently thrown out by "Atlas" induced Pagel to put in an appearance the other night at the Opera House to "take his rival on." The audience were vastly amused at the wordy war that then ensued. It was quite an unexpected "turn." The upshot was that "Atlas" wanted Pagel to put up "stuff" and then go ahead with the test of strength. Pagel declined to bet money on the event, although quite willing to go ahead without it. His wife, from the stalls, to the amusement of the audience, flourished her purse, and urged her man to "go in and stiffen the other bloke." Subsequent proceedings consisted of a mere storm of mutual abuse. Pagel was induced to leave the stage by a burly constable, who exercised considerable tact in his mission, and the galleryites were deprived of perhaps the most interesting "turn" of the evening, although unprovided by the management.

LONDON.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

15th January.

Russia and Japan.

At last the British public appears to have at least partially woken up to the fact that the Far Eastern crisis may have even a more momentous bearing on the welfare of this country than the fiscal issue about which we are all exciting ourselves. It took us a long time to realise that Japan was thoroughly in earnest, as she now appears to be—that there was, indeed, a large and influential party in Japan which desires war and would be sorry for a peaceful solution. That at least is the opinion to which many here have now arrived. On the whole, sympathy here is still overwhelmingly on the side of Japan; but still there is a considerable section which feels that it is the duty of this country to lay a moderating hand on her ally. We are still, of course, a good deal in the dark as to the progress of the negotiations. We have only vague, indefinite reports of the contents of the notes which have passed

between them; but the general impression conveyed by these reports is that Russia is disposed now to make great concessions, and that if war breaks out the fault may not be wholly hers.

Mr. Balfour's Reserve.

Mr. Balfour, after a long silence, at last made a public appearance on Monday, when he addressed a great meeting of his constituents in East Manchester. His remarks on the Far Eastern crisis were, however, characterised by the most careful reserve. He declined to express any opinion on the chances of peace or war, or on the merits of the questions in dispute between Russia and Japan; all he would do was to express a fervent hope that peace would be maintained, and to declare, though he hoped the declaration was unnecessary, that Great Britain would carry out to the full all her treaty obligations to her ally. Some opponents of his Majesty's Government are blaming them for not taking active measures to preserve the peace between the disputants; but the blame is passed altogether in the dark, as no one knows what steps Lord Lansdowne has taken, or what steps it has been possible for him to take, in this direction.

Fiscal.

It must be confessed, too, that less interest has been taken in the Prime Minister's remarks on this question than in what he had to say on the fiscal question. On this subject he had no new departure to announce. His speech was indeed an elaborate defence of the policy he has adopted—a policy which has been described by Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman as an attempt to walk on both sides of the street at once. That, says the "Times," is Sir Henry's way of describing the sound policy of walking in the middle of the street. It is obvious, however, that except as a temporary expedient there is no room for a middle course between the "whole-hog" policy of Mr. Chamberlain and the Free Trade policy of to-day. Mr. Balfour denies that his attitude is the result of cowardice or of opportunism in the bad sense of the word; but he considers it his duty as leader of the Unionist Party to keep the party together, and with this view, while still acknowledging his sympathy with Mr. Chamberlain's objects, he counsels the ex-Colonial-Secretary to "go slow," and reiterates his declaration that the food taxes which are essential to a system of colonial preferences form no part of the policy of the Government. He warns Mr. Chamberlain and his supporters that "they must not endeavour, in a rush of enthusiasm, to effect a change which would not stand the test of time, not because it is intrinsically wrong, not because it is based on unsound principles, but because it has not behind it that body of fixed sentiment and affections which is the only sure basis of any great reform."

Mr. Chamberlain's Commission.

Meanwhile Mr. Chamberlain's Commission is getting to work. Its deliberations were opened to-day by Mr. Chamberlain with an elaborate speech. Last night as a preliminary, Mr. C. Arthur Pearson, the enterprising proprietor of the "Daily Express," entertained the whole body at a sumptuous dinner at the Hyde Park Hotel. Two days previously the final list of commissioners was published, the most notable names among them being Sir Charles Elliott, Mr. Vicary Gibbs, and Sir W. Percival. Mr. Chamberlain described the body as a "business commission for business men." On the other hand Mr.

Winston Churchill has dubbed them the "Forty Thieves." They are of course all more or less strongly convinced Protectionists; but those who make this a ground of complaint against them overlook the purpose for which they have been appointed. They have not to consider whether it is desirable to abandon our Free Trade system and adopt a Protective or Retaliatory Tariff, with preferences to the Colonies. That question has already been answered to the satisfaction of the gentleman who has appointed them. Their duty is to "frame a tariff in accordance with Mr. Chamberlain's views. At the same time they are of course not debarred from taking the claims of the consumer into consideration as well as the claims of the producer. Though we may, with the "Standard," hold that Mr. Chamberlain has overstepped the bounds of modesty, if not of constitutionalism, in imitating so closely the system and nomenclature of a Royal Commission, the departure is a very interesting one and will be followed with the closest attention.

Mr. Whitaker Wright

The trial of Mr. Whitaker Wright has been proceeding all this week in the High Court, to which it was removed from the Central Criminal Court at the instance of the accused; and it will be some days yet before the issue is left to the jury. I imagine, however, that there are very few people besides those personally interested in the case who will wade through the columns of evidence which appear in the papers. In the first place it is full of dry statistics which are not easy to follow; in the next the nature of the evidence for the prosecution has been sufficiently revealed in the police court proceedings. The indictment charges Mr. Whitaker Wright with having, "as director and manager of the London and Globe Finance Corporation, Limited, made, circulated and published certain material particulars which he knew to be false, with intent to deceive and defraud the members, shareholders, and creditors of the Company," and involved and uninteresting as the proceedings may seem, the issue will be looked for with intense interest, especially in view of the well-remembered fact that the Government, relying upon the open advice of the Law Officers of the Crown, refused to institute proceedings, and this trial is entirely the outcome of private initiative.

The Savoy Theatre.

Last night all the great theatrical world was invited by Mrs. D'Oyley Carte to a house-warming reception at the renovated and redecored Savoy Theatre. Of the famous trio who established the brilliant success of the theatre, two—Sir Arthur Sullivan and Mr. O'Donoghue—have passed away; but the third,—the "retired humourist" Mr. W. S. Gilbert—who by the way is said to have a new play nearly ready for production, was there, as were Mr. George Grossmith, Mr. Rutland Barrington, Mr. Richard Temple, Miss Rosina Brandram, and many more creators of leadings parts in the famous series of comic operas. There are, however, some who doubt whether the glories of the Savoy will ever be fully revived. Gilbert and Sullivan have no successors; and it must be confessed that towards the end of their famous partnership there were signs that the peculiar view of humour in music and words, happy though it was, was getting played out. However, Mrs. D'Oyley Carte has proved herself a most competent theatre manager, and she may fairly be trusted when one vein is played out to seek and find success in another.

LONDON.

(FROM OUR LADY CORRESPONDENT.)

15th January.

Winter Art Exhibitions. The Royal Academy.

The winter exhibitions of pictures have one striking difference from those held during the summer months—their infinite variety. This season especially there must surely be something to please everyone who takes any interest whatever in art. Burlington House as usual devotes itself entirely to the works of masters now deceased, but this year the term "Old Masters" can hardly be applied, for although some canvasses date back as far as the fifteenth century there are likewise works from the brushes of Sidney Cooper, R. A., H. T. Wells, R. A., and John Calcott-Horsley, R. A., all of whom passed away quite recently.

Although the whole of Gallery II and the greater portion of the great gallery are devoted to the works of the Academy's President of eighty years ago, Sir Thomas Lawrence, I think the work which appealed to me most was Rembrandt's "Portrait of a Lady" lent by the Marquess of Northampton. It is a half-length figure in a black satin dress with a wide lace collar for its only ornament. Perhaps its charm lies in its simplicity, or maybe in the wonderful flesh tints and the fascinating dimple, which in real life must have won for the lady hosts of admirers. In any case I saw nothing else nearly so delightful and could not help wondering why none of our leading portrait painters of to-day can get that wonderful life-like effect, for they certainly do not. In the same gallery (No. III) there is a portrait of James Byers (or Byres), a celebrated architect and antiquary, by Sir Henry Raeburn, R. A., and with it one had exactly the same feeling; the vitality in it was perfectly marvellous. I heard two artists discussing the colouring of Sir Thomas Lawrence's pictures at the private view and they both agreed that in their wonderful colour scheme lay their great charm. One remarked how impossible it was to get the same colours nowadays. I wondered why, but suppose that in these days of general adulteration, paint shares the common fate. The Lawrence collection includes some most interesting examples of the great painter's skill. Pope Pius VII (lent by H. M. the King) occupies the centre of one of the walls in the third gallery. It is a full-length portrait of his Holiness seated in a chair; the red and white of the robes are as fresh in tone as if they had but just left the studio and over all there is thrown a yellow-tinged light, coming through from a gallery seen in the background, which is most effective. "Cardinal Cansalvi" (likewise the property of the King) is a work of equal if not of greater powers. The Cardinal is seated in his robes, facing the spectator, holding his biretta and a bundle of papers in his hand, a face full of strength of purpose. The catalogue furnishes the information that Cansalvi was created Cardinal and Secretary of State by Pope Pius VII and that in this capacity, he concluded the concordat with Napoleon in 1801; that subsequently he strongly opposed the French Emperor's pretensions, and was imprisoned for three years at Rheims; released at the same time as the Pope was allowed to leave Fontainebleau, he returned with him to Rome and resumed the direction of affairs there. I could not help thinking, as I looked at the face of the man—so keen and restless and full of life—how long those three years of prison-life must have seemed.

Although his men are undoubtedly fine, I suppose it is as a painter of "Fair Women" that Sir Thomas is really excellent;

some of his ladies are more than passing fair but quite the most beautiful example shown in the present exhibition is his well-known "Miss Farren" the celebrated actress who subsequently became Countess of Derby. She must have been a most lovely creature, tall and fair with beautiful dark eyes. She is gowned in white and wears a long white silk cloak trimmed with fur and a white fur boa, exactly like those so popular to-day. In her hand she holds a large feather fan, her hair is curled and powdered, and the whole effect obtained is dainty in the extreme, reminding one of a piece of Dresden China. "The Countess of Leitrim and Daughter," and "Mrs. Maguire and Arthur Fitzjames," are two canvasses which struck me as being particularly charming but taken as a whole I think the entire collection is one of the most interesting ever got together within these walls. I suppose in no other country except ours would it be possible to obtain a loan collection of anything like an equal value.

The New Gallery.

The International Society of Sculptors, Painters, and Gravers have found a temporary home, and their exhibition forms about as great a contrast to the one at Burlington House as it is possible to imagine, but what the International lacks in dignity they certainly make up for in originality and variety; few visitors to the Regent Street gallery could fail to admire something where so many tastes are catered for. Since the last show, held I think two years ago, the Society has lost its founder and first President, Mr. Whistler. Three of his works are included in the present exhibition, two of which, "A Study in White" and "Valparaiso" are well known, the third, "Rose et Or: la Tulipe," is unfinished and for that reason is of special interest, more especially as it shows signs of an unusual amount of study and would undoubtedly have been a masterpiece when complete. Under it hangs a wreath of silver laurel leaves—a touching tribute from the late artist's many admirers. Next in point of interest to the work of the dead President comes that of his successor in office, M. Rodin, the great French sculptor, whose genius we in England are proud to have been the first to recognise. In the Central Hall of the Gallery there is a huge figure in plaster, "Le Grand Penseur," and not far off is a small bronze statuette of the same subject; both are magnificently conceived and carried out. The subject is a man, nude, seated on a rough stone, his body bending forward, the head resting on the hand. The pose is suggestive of deep and absorbing thought and one feels that some great thing will come of it. The man is altogether a grand creature. M. Rodin exhibits three other works, "Bellona," "A Dream," and "Torso of St. John." All are fine but I liked "Le Penseur" best. Miss Jamie Martin by Sir James Guthrie, a portrait of a child in a red frock, is bright and pretty; and "The First Communion," by John Lavery, I thought charming. But I think the black and white work interested me more. A series of nineteen etchings, colour prints, and lithographs by Felicien Rops were wonderfully clever, as were also some charcoal drawings of Spanish street views by Joseph Pennell, and some original wood engravings (after old Masters) by Timothy Cole. A casket in gold, silver, enamels, and precious stones, by Henry Wilson, presented to Mr. Chamberlain by the Members of the Constitutional Club, attracted a great amount of attention at the private view; it really is beautifully made but caskets always appear to me so very useless.

Death of a Celebrated Contralto.

Although it is some years since Madame Antoinette Sterling retired from the concert platform the song she made famous all

over the world is still sung, and the good deeds she has done, not only here in England but in other lands she visited, are still talked of, and will be for many years to come. I suppose tens of thousands of people listened to her singing of "The Lost Chord," but to me even more wonderful was her rendering of "The Three Fishers." I was much interested to read, in a short memoir of her life, that when Charles Kingsley heard her sing it he was so overcome that he was compelled to retire sobbing from the room. I chanced to be in Australia when Madame Sterling visited the colonies, and well remember hearing tales of her visits to the hospitals and prisons in the various cities where she was engaged professionally. I know she constantly devoted the entire afternoon to singing to the sick and suffering and then fulfilled her evening's allotted task. She was once commanded to sing before the late Queen Victoria at Windsor and a difficulty arose as regards dress. Being a Quaker Madame Sterling objected to the wearing of so-called evening dress; the matter was represented to the Queen who at once permitted the great singer to wear just what she liked best. Madame Sterling leaves two sons and at least one daughter. Her eldest son Mr. Sterling MacKinlay has for the past two years been playing small parts in Musical Comedies and possesses a very pleasing baritone voice.

Hidden Treasure.

The latest form of booming a newspaper is certainly ingenious and I should say costly. I think it originated on the Continent; at any rate I noticed a few weeks ago that it had become so great a nuisance in Paris that it had been stopped. Here its importance threatens to rival even Fiscal reform. It was taken up by "Lit Bits" and "Answers" but the amounts they gave away were nothing compared with the "Weekly Dispatch" which at the present time announces that it has medals representing £2,000 buried in London and adjoining towns. Each medal when found represents a sum of money varying from £10 to £50 which will at once be paid by the proprietors on receipt of the token. Of course to obtain the clue one must buy the paper, which supplies certain "lights" for energetic searchers. Last Sunday's paper announced that a medal was hidden apparently quite near the part I live in, and I am told that men and women were up even before it was light turning the ground over, some of them with table-spoons; but so far it has eluded them. One man, however, was known to remark that the day in the open air had done him a "power of good."

J. K.

Meetings.

TRINITY CATHEDRAL.

Annual Subscribers' Meeting.

Unusual interest was shown in the annual meeting of the subscribers to Trinity Cathedral, who were called together at the British Consulate yesterday afternoon. Sir Pelham L. Warren (H.B.M.'s Consul-General) presided, and the others present were Messrs. J. H. Craven, F. A. de St. Croix, H. G. Dowler, Jas. Jones, H. A. J. Macray, J. Stenhouse, A. Wright, and Jas. L. Scott (Trustee and Hon. Secretary).

The minutes of the last meeting were taken as read and signed.

It was proposed by Mr. Jas. L. Scott, and seconded by Mr. H. A. J. Macray: "That the Report and Accounts as presented be passed."

Mr. Scott—Before the resolution that the Report and Accounts as

presented be passed, is put before you, I should like as usual to say a few words on what has occurred during the past year. I am sure that those present, and also the entire congregation will confirm what the Trustees have said regarding our late chaplain, Mr. Hodges, and their appreciation of the work done by Mrs. Hodges, and will further approve of their having erected a stone over his grave. They would also much like to see, in commemoration of his long connection with the Cathedral, a memorial window placed in the church, the cost of which, somewhere about £100 could, I think, be easily raised by subscription among the congregation. Mr. Walker, our new chaplain, will be here about the beginning of May, and pending his arrival we are having the Deanery painted and generally done up, of which it stood very much in need. As regards the accounts at the meeting last year I said that the amount which would be required to pay for the new church room would probably leave us in debt, but this has not proved to be the case, as our present debit balance £1s. 3,880.65 is entirely due to the re-roofing of the deanery, etc., amounting as you see to £1s. 4,026.41; so that we have paid for the Church Room, completed in every way, out of funds in hand. There are some extraordinary expenses to be met this year, as detailed in the Report, but as there stated, as our income under normal conditions is always greater than our expenditure, we will, as time goes on, steadily lessen and eventually wipe out the amount we at present owe the bank. Mr. Burdekin is getting on well with the repairs to the organ, and hopes to have it ready by Easter Sunday. You will notice that through the kindness of some friends, two new stops and a coupler will be added to the instrument, and our best thanks are due to those who have so generously come forward and enabled these further improvements to be made, especially as the present state of the Cathedral funds would have prevented our undertaking anything of this sort. You will also see what is said about the heating apparatus. I think matters can be somewhat improved before next winter so that the fumes do not get into the church, and when we are again in funds we can properly tackle this matter. Mr. Hogg and Mr. Addis do not offer themselves for re-election as Trustees, the former being still at home, and the latter on the point of leaving for a year's holiday. A resolution will be put before you, nominating two other members of the congregation to fill their places for the current year.

Mr. Stenhouse thought the Trustees had laid themselves open to criticism by the hurry in which they had been to appoint a successor to the late Mr. Hodges. The late Chaplain died on Friday, and Mr. Stenhouse believed he was right in saying that the appointment of Mr. Walker was practically arranged by the following Sunday. The Trustees seemed to have acted more as patrons of the living than as the representatives of the pewholders. Mr. Scott might now have given some fuller reason for the Trustees' action than was contained in the circular sent out. It was not a question as to whether Mr. Walker was suitable or not; he conceded that the Trustees had picked the best man it was possible to get out here. But he and other seatholders thought it highly desirable that the congregation should have been consulted before the appointment was actually made. It was said, in excuse, that Mr. Walker was about to leave for home, but still there

was time to have put the matter before the congregation. Again in the report it was stated that Mr. Walker would be here in April, but Mr. Scott now said it would be May before he arrived. He (Mr. Stenhouse) had been criticised for advising Mr. Walker, who was a personal friend of his, to see that his position was very definitely laid down in his agreement. He would like to know whether as a fact any differences had been made in this agreement from the wording of that with Mr. Hodges. He was sorry to see that the Trustees still devoted the Easter and Christmas offertories to Church expenses: at Christmas time especially he thought the offertory might be given to an outside object. It was always said when this point was raised that the Cathedral wanted the money; but he noticed they generally had a balance on the right side, about £1s. 2,000 the Trustees put it as a rule, and he thought it not a nice idea that the Christmas offertory should go to save the congregation's own pocket. For it came to that since, if the money for Church expenses was not collected then, it would be necessary to collect it at some other time. Would it rest with Mr. Walker to say whether or not there should be weekly collections? The report briefly mentioned the matter of heating the Cathedral. The ventilation was disgraceful and threatened everyone who came there with disease. The place was full of a dead stale atmosphere and the windows were never opened. From the report it appeared the congregation would have to wait for many years before they could get any redress. Surely the money could be raised in some way; if in no other way the Honan Road property might be mortgaged. The members of the choir specially complained. One of them had a watering can near his stove to relieve the oppression, so bad was it. Another suggestion Mr. Stenhouse had to make was that the annual meeting of pewholders should be held later in the afternoon. A member of the Union Church had suggested to him that the Trustees called the meeting for half-past two because they wished no one to attend.

Mr. Scott replied to these criticisms. When Mr. Hodges died, he said, it became necessary for the Trustees to consider the question of a successor. From previous experience they knew how difficult it was to get a man from home. Letters would be sent to people of whom Shanghai knew little, who knew little of Shanghai, and therefore took small interest in the place. The result was that few clergymen would be persuaded into coming. It so happened that just at the time of Mr. Hodges' death Mr. Walker was passing through Shanghai. Mr. Walker was known personally to many members of the congregation and Mr. Addis and he (Mr. Scott) had already Mr. Walker in view as a suitable Chaplain in the event of a vacancy unhappily occurring. The Bishop was also in Shanghai at this time. He (Mr. Scott) spoke to the Bishop, and with his permission, Mr. Walker was asked if he would get consent from his Society in London. Mr. Walker said he should have to consult the Bishop and the Church Missionary Society; that was all he could say at the time. The Trustees had every confidence that he was just the man for the post, but to secure him they had to break some rules. Of that they took the risk, trusting to be forgiven when the congregation came to know Mr. Walker. Before anything was settled the Trustees sent out a circular explaining the whole matter and asking for opinions. To that they re-

ceived no reply. If the congregation did not approve, their disapproval did not go to the extent of making itself known.

Mr. Jones did not consider that the circular warranted any member of the congregation replying to it. It definitely stated that Mr. Walker had been appointed and left the congregation no option but to accept.

Mr. Dowler was of the same opinion. Mr. Scott said the fact remained that the congregation made no sign.

Mr. Jones said he was a personal friend of Mr. Walker but this circular absolved the congregation from any share in the appointment and showed that the election was entirely by the Trustees.

Mr. Scott still denied that the Trustees elected Mr. Walker.

Mr. Jones asked that the circular be read.

This having been done, Mr. Scott admitted that the circular might be taken to mean that the appointment had been made. The Trustees had, however, acted for the best and thought the congregation would be glad they so acted. He was sorry if they had gone outside their powers.

Mr. Jones would go further than saying he was a friend of Mr. Walker; he was an admirer of him. Mr. Walker was qualified in every respect for the chaplaincy and the congregation would approve the choice. It was only the question of the time and manner of the appointment that was objected to.

Mr. Scott—It had to be done then or not at all.

Mr. Dowler—Couldn't it have been sent home to him?

Mr. Stenhouse—He didn't go home at once; he went to Ningpo for two or three weeks.

Mr. Jones did not think the matter was one to dispute over now. The Trustees had made a grammatical slip in their circular, that was all. He would like to have some information as to Mr. Walker's functions under the new agreement.

Mr. Scott said Mr. Walker would have full control of the Church; the Trustees had nothing to do with the conduct of the services.

Mr. Jones remarked that the agreement with the organist and choir-master conferred certain powers on him.

Mr. Scott said the agreement with Mr. Crompton was made before he became a Trustee. But Mr. Walker would say what music was to be played; that was the custom with churches at home.

Mr. Craven—Then he will be precentor as well.

Mr. Jones argued that unless the chaplain were appointed precentor the organist controlled the music.

Mr. Dowler—Not in any church I have been connected with.

Mr. Jones—I have been singing for 40 years, and my experience is that the minister only selects the anthems and hymns.

Mr. Wright thought the whole discussion unfortunate. Everyone who knew Mr. Walker spoke most highly of him and everyone thought his appointment a good one.

Mr. Jones said that when the last appointment was made 15 years ago, there was a lot of agitation and it was definitely settled that no fresh appointment should be made without the consent of the pewrenters.

Mr. Wright said the Trustees were fully within their rights in appointing.

Mr. Scott again admitted that the Trustees might have exceeded their province in an endeavour to do their best.

Mr. Craven—For how long is the agreement?

Mr. Scott—For three years.

Mr. Stenhouse—From when?

Mr. Scott—From the 1st January.

Mr. Stenhouse—So he will only be here for 2½ years?

Mr. Scott said the Trustees hoped Mr. Walker would be chaplain for much longer than that. In regard to the other points raised by Mr. Stenhouse, the matter of weekly offertories would be left to Mr. Walker. The Trustees were doing their best in the matter of heating. The apparatus had been a source of trouble from the first, and was constantly being patched, but the funds would not possibly stand a fresh installation as yet. The windows were opened every day and such ventilation given as was possible. In the matter of the Christmas and Easter offertories the Trustees were simply carrying out what had always been done. There were many who attended, who were not seatholders, but who took these opportunities of contributing five or ten dollars to the church expenses. Still it was for the congregation to say if they wished the offertories to go to some charity instead; the Trustees would then select one.

Mr. Stenhouse—Won't that rest with the Chaplain?

Mr. Scott—The Trustees look after the finances.

Mr. Stenhouse—But you said the question of weekly offerings was to be left to Mr. Walker.

Mr. Scott—He will decide whether we have them or not.

Mr. Jones—We should object to weekly offerings. I think the Trustees would themselves object.

Mr. Scott was glad of this opportunity to know what the congregation really wished. His private opinion was that with pew rents which were fairly high, weekly offertories as well would be too great a burden, since it was pewholders who would probably contribute.

Mr. Craven—I should strongly oppose weekly collections.

Mr. Jones—The only thing that keeps us going is that we have not got a collection. If we started one we should have an empty Church.

Mr. Scott—We hope Mr. Walker will alter that.

The resolution was then put and carried unanimously.

It was proposed by Mr. A. Wright, seconded by Mr. F. A. de St. Croix and carried unanimously: "That Sir Charles J. Dudgeon, Mr. H. A. J. Macray, and Mr. James L. Scott be appointed Trustees for the current year."

Mr. Craven complained that on special occasions—more particularly the Coronation services—seatholders had been deprived of their sittings without a previous request. Other seats had been allotted but seatholders were put to inconvenience.

Mr. Scott admitted that in this case also the Trustees had been in fault. Usually permission had been asked, and it had never been refused. The formality had been omitted on this occasion.

Votes of thanks to Sir Pelham Warren and to the Trustees closed the meeting.

"FOR THE BLOOD IS THE LIFE." Clarke's World-famed Blood Mixture is warranted to cleanse the blood from all impurities from whatever cause arising. For Scrofula, Scurvy, Eczema, Bad Legs, Skin and Blood Diseases, Pimples, and Sores of all kinds, its effects are marvellous. Thousands of wonderful cures have been effected by it. Sold everywhere at 2s. 6d. Beware of worthless imitations.

KIUKIANG LAND-RENTERS' MEETING.

Annual General Meeting.

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Landrenters and Electors of the British Concession at Kiukiang, held at the British Consulate on Monday, 1st February 1904.

Present.—W. J. Clemmell, Esq., in the chair, Messrs. Anderson, Benson, Bessell, Brazier, Clindening, Day, Elder, Hodges, Howard, Mills, Oliveira, Orr-Ewing, Smith, Swan, Toomasoff, Williams, and Urquhart representing 45 votes in the chair.

On the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. Orr-Ewing, Mr. F. E. Hodges was appointed Secretary to the meeting. The minutes of the Annual General Meeting of 24th January 1903 were taken as read and adopted.

The Report and Statement of Account, for 1903 and Estimate for 1904 were laid on the table.

KIUKIANG MUNICIPAL COUNCIL.

STATEMENT OF YEAR'S ACCOUNT, 1903. 1st January, 1903.

	Dr.	Tls.	Tls.
To Balance from 1902.....		296.35	
„ Drain debentures repaid with interest ...		302.25	
Interest on 22 at 6 per cent.....		132.00	
„ Recreation Ground debentures repaid \$350 at 72		252.00	
Interest at 6 per cent \$21		15.12	
„ Auditor's Fee, 1902.....			267.12
„ Police wages and New Year cumshaw		2,109.91	
Uniforms		149.88	
Rent of station.....		78.82	
Repairs of station.....		260.48	
Medical attendance 300		21.24	321.24
Medicines.....		10.03	
Fire Bucket.....		9.50	
Pans for Latrine			2,939.86
„ Lights and fuel accounts.....			392.84
„ Roads			366.63
„ Garden and Recreation Ground		191.52	
Repairs to lawn mower and purchase of new mower		48.23	
Seats, etc. in Recreation Ground		48.72	
Baud expenses.....		29.38	
„ Disinfectants			317.85
„ Fire Insurance on property ...			22.80
„ Consular fees, etc., re property..			11.03
„ Coolie hire filling up Police Station yard			34.92
„ Donation to Hospital			21.10
„ Building New Store at Police Station			25.00
„ Sundries and Stationery			219.89
„ Paid in to H. and S. Bank, S. Tls. 265.43 at 5 per cent...			58.26
„ Cash in Treasurer's hands			252.16
			7.41

K. Tls. 5,682.47

	Cr.	Tls.	Tls.
By Bond dues			
C. N. Co., Ltd.		750.00	
J. M. and Co.		500.00	
Geo. McBain (N.Y.K.) ..		500.00	
T. M. and Co.		225.00	
M. P. and Co.		225.00	
Lee Kwang-kee		112.50	
			2,312.50
„ Bond dues collected.....			274.81
„ Dog tax			62.00
„ Fines from prisoners ..			6.48

By Rent of Police Station, Weeks and Co.....	14.40
" Kuling Rest House License 3 quarters	54.00
" Taxes	2,706.00
" Balance of Coronation Fund ..	12
" J. B. Pillow, Rent of store \$360 at about 72,044	252.16
	<u>5,642.47</u>

E. & O. E.

Kiukiang, 19th January, 1904.

F. E. Hodges.

Hon. Treas. K. M. C.

Audited and found correct
15th January, 1904.

M. TOOMASOFF.

KIUKIANG MUNICIPAL COUNCIL.

In account with Hongkong and Shanghai Bank.

By Stamp money and Consul's Deposit, plus Interest	1,539.19
" Rev. J. B. Pillow	265.43
	<u>1,804.62</u>

Dr.

To Robert Anderson & Co. for Land	3,225.00
" Cash Account Police Barracks	917.05
" Repayment to Consul with Interest.....	269.35
" 7% Interest on periodical debit balances...	96.94
	<u>4,508.34</u>

Overdraft... 2,703.72

Or at 5% K. Tls.... 2,568.53

Stamp Money Account.

By Sale of Stamps	1,237.50
-------------------------	----------

Dr.

To Building Barracks ...	917.05
" Balance	320.45
	<u>1,237.50</u>

Sh. Tls. ... 1,237.50

E. & O. E.

Kiukiang, 19th January, 1904.

F. E. HODGES,

Hon. Treas., K.M.C.

Audited and found correct.

27th January, 1904.

M. TOOMASOFF.

KIUKIANG MUNICIPAL COUNCIL.

ESTIMATE 1904.

EXPENDITURE.

Dr.

To Auditor's Fee.....	15.00
" Police Wages and New Year cumshaw.....	2,100.00
Uniform	150.00
Repairs to Station	100.00
Medical attendance.....	300.00
Medicines	50.00
	<u>2,700.00</u>
" Fuel and lights account	450.00
" Roads account	600.00
Disinfectants.....	25.00
	<u>625.00</u>
" Garden account	250.00
" Drain Debentures	
Repay 3.....	300.00
Interest on 19 at 6 per cent	114.00
	<u>414.00</u>
" Pay in account Hongkong Bank Loan ...	450.00
" Building Latrine at South Gate	125.00
" Refilling Recreation Ground	150.00
Insurance	15.00
" Donation to Hospital ..	25.00
" Sundries	100.00
	<u>100.00</u>
	<u>Kg. Tls. 5,319.00</u>

INCOME.

Cr.

By Commutation Fees.....	2,312.50
" Taxation for assessment.....	2,708.00
" Bund Dues collected	150.00
" Rent for Station.....	20.00
" License on Rest House	72.00
" Dog Licenses	30.00
" Credit Balance from 1903.....	7.41
" Deficit to 1905.....	19.09
	<u>K. Tls. 5,319.00</u>

Return of apprehensions, etc., made by the Police during the year ending 31st December 1903.

OFFENCES.

No. of Apprehensions.

Assault	7
Larceny	19
Committing Nuisance	14
Creating Disturbance	24
Breach of Municipal Regulations...	15
Miscellaneous Cases	8
	<u>Total..... 87</u>

How DISPOSED OF

No.

Sent to the city to be punished ...	24
Fined	5
Summarily disposed of by the Council	58
	<u>Total..... 87</u>

J. MEARS,
Inspector of Police.To the Honorary Secretary
Municipal Council,
Kiukiang.KIUKIANG MUNICIPAL COUNCIL REPORT,
1903.

The Council.—As elected at the Annual Meeting of 24th January, 1903. Messrs. Hodges, Mills and Smith have been in office throughout the year and now offer themselves for re-election.

Accounts for 1903 are submitted, showing a credit balance of Tls. 7.41, cash in Treasurer's hands, and an amount of Tls. 252.16, paid into the Hongkong Bank to our credit. This latter goes to decrease the overdraft. Expenditure has been greater on Repairs, and on Garden and Recreation Ground than was estimated, also there have been sundry expenses connected with the acquirement of the Police Station Property, not allowed for; on the other hand, the Bund dues collected, other than commuted fees, considerably exceed the estimate.

As empowered at last Annual Meeting the Council have paid for the Police Station property by an overdraft on the Hongkong Bank at 7 per cent interest. This overdraft now stands at Tls. 2,703.72, plus balance of stamp money S. Tls. 320.45—S. Tls. 3,024.17, or at 5 per cent. ex.—K. Tls. 2,872.97.

Police.—The native constables have been carefully superintended, as formerly, by Inspector Mears, whose report is appended.

Station Property.—The property purchased has been improved for Police occupation by the erection of the new barracks; the Inspector's house has also been thoroughly renovated.

On the Concession Road front of the property a store has been built, under an agreement with Messrs. Pillow and Morel, and this is now occupied as a general store.

Bund Wall and Apron, as repaired last low water season, appear in good condition after the summer. The steps and jetties will require attention this season.

Public Garden and Recreation Ground.—Some improvements have been effected; swings and seats have been provided in the latter, and in the Public Garden a small shrubbery has been formed at the south end. Trees have received attention, and some saplings planted out on the Bund front, to fill up gaps caused by the removal of willows. There are many old willow trees which might be removed; when younger (say plane) trees could be

substituted. This should be done gradually, however; both on the score of expense, and because the shade can be meanwhile maintained as far as possible for the hot weather.

The balance of the local postage stamp funds, after paying for construction of the new barracks, is S. Tls. 320.45. The Council suggest that this be placed towards levelling of the Recreation Ground.

At the suggestion of H.B.M. Acting Consul, Mr. Higgs, and with his consent, a latrine has been constructed by the South Gate of the Concession, for the use of native public.

Cemeteries have been carefully attended to; and as much has been done to render the New Cemetery convenient as is possible, considering the nature of the site; a roadway approach to the latter has been constructed, with the consent of the Chinese authorities.

Grant to French Hospital.—The Council have pleasure in proposing that the grant of Tls. 25 be continued as formerly.

F. E. HODGES,
Hon. Sec. K.M.C.

Accounts.—The adoption of the accounts for 1903 was moved by Mr. Orr-Ewing and seconded by Mr. Swan; after some discussion, in which Messrs. Brazier, Smith, Mills, Benson and the Chairman and Secretary took part, the accounts were passed with one dissentient vote, and two "no votes."

Report adopted upon the motion of Mr. Day, seconded by Mr. Elder, nem. con.

Election of Councillors for 1904.—There being two nominations only before the meeting, the Chairman declared Messrs. Mills and Hodges duly elected.

Estimate, 1904.—After usual explanations by the Hon. Treasurer the adoption of the estimate was moved by him and seconded by Dr. Clindening and carried nem. con.

Proposed by Dr. Clindening, seconded by Mr. Mills, "That the balance of the stamp money be thrown into the general account for the benefit of the Recreation Ground." Carried nem. con.

Resolution 1.—Proposed by Mr. Elder, seconded by Dr. Clindening, "That the street lamps be lighted at sunset and kept lighted until midnight every night of the year." Carried by 21 votes to 20.

Resolution 2.—Proposed by Dr. Clindening, seconded by Mr. Elder, "That all willow trees be removed from the Concession before the beginning of spring."

An amendment was moved by Mr. F. E. Hodges, seconded by Mr. Mills, "That the Council be instructed to remove all old willow trees from the roadways as soon as may be convenient, substituting plane or other suitable trees." Passed by 25 votes to 20. The original motion therefore fell to the ground.

Vote of thanks to the Chairman concluded the meeting.

WALTER J. CLENNELL,
H. B. M. Consul. Chairman.
F. E. HODGES,
Hon. Sec. K.M.C.

"FOR THE BLOOD IS THE LIFE." Clarke's World-famed Blood Mixture is warranted to cleanse the blood from all impurities from whatever cause arising. For Scrofula, Scurvy, Eczema, Bad Legs, Skin and Blood Diseases, Pimples, and Sores of all kinds, its effects are marvellous. Thousands of wonderful cures have been effected by it. Sold everywhere at 2s. 6d. Beware of worthless imitations.

Reports.

SHANGHAI GAS
COMPANY, LIMITED.

REPORT FOR 1903.

(Being the 40th since the origin of the Company).

The Directors have pleasure in presenting the Annual Report and Statement of Accounts for 1903. The increase in the Company's business has been very satisfactory and the profit on Working Account for the year amounted to Tls. 144,126.80, which sum has been transferred to Profit and Loss Account.

The net profit, after providing for payment of Interest on Debentures and Bad and Doubtful Debts, amounted to Tls. 147,615.97.

The balance at Credit of Profit and Loss Account, after deducting amount of Interim Dividend at the rate of 7 per cent, paid on 31st July last (Tls. 37,331.00), and crediting the account with Tls. 5,142.62, carried forward after appropriation of profits of last year, amounts to Tls. 115,427.59, of which sum the Directors recommend appropriation as follows:—

To pay a final Dividend on the Capital for the year 1903, at the rate of 7 per cent (making 14 per cent for the year)..... 37,331.00

To pay a bonus on the capital for the year, at the rate of Tls. 1.50 per share 15,999.00

To write off for Depreciation of Land and Buildings.....Tls. 3,267.57

To write off for Depreciation of Manufacturing and Distributing Plant 21,062.63

To write off for Depreciation of Furniture 416.93

To transfer to Renewals and Depreciation Account..... 25,000.00

To carry forward to new Account 7,548.00

Consumption.—Private consumption has increased 44,848,776 cubic feet or 24.26 per cent.

Gas Engines.—The number of engines now in use is 81 and the gas consumed has increased to 19,519,800 cubic feet, being an increase of 47.51 per cent.

Coal, &c.—There were tons 4,675.11.2 more carbonized than in 1902 and 51,139,200 cubic feet more gas was produced.

Residuals.—The production of Tar and Coke has increased so much, owing to the larger amount of coal used, that lower prices per unit have had to be accepted. The net result, however, is satisfactory.

Fittings.—The Fittings Department has been kept fully occupied, a large portion of the staff being constantly engaged in the installation and care of Incandescent Burners.

The subjoined summary of the Engineer's Reports gives details regarding Plant, Buildings and Manufacture.

Capital.—During the year 6 per cent Debentures to the extent of Tls. 110,000 (being part of authorised issue of Tls. 300,000) have been issued. To provide for the extension of the Company's Plant, called for by the gratifying increase in the business, the Directors propose shortly offering the unissued balance of the Company's authorised capital, amounting to 5,334 shares. These shares the Directors propose offering to the shareholders in the proportion of one new share for every two held by them and issuing same at Tls. 75 per share or a premium of 50 per cent.

Directors.—Mr. E. Jenner Hogg having resigned his seat on the Board on his

leaving for England, the Directors invited Mr. P. F. Lavers to fill the vacancy. Mr. Lavers' appointment requires confirmation at the Ordinary General Meeting. In accordance with the Articles of Association Mr. John Cooper retires, but being eligible offers himself for re-election.

Auditor.—Mr. C. W. Wrightson having resigned, the accounts have been audited by Mr. W. H. Anderson, who now offers himself for election.

Summary of the Engineer's Reports to the Directors during the year 1903.

Manufacture.—The work on the New Retort House and Coal Stores and on the New Gas Holder has been carried on satisfactorily during the year, and these large additions to the Company's resources will shortly be in working order.

Coal, etc., carbonised Tons.

Gas manufactured.....263,398,000 Cubic feet.

Yield per ton.....10,731 " "

Average illuminating power 17½ Candles.

Distribution.

Mains.—13,344 yards

or over 7½ miles

new and enlarged

mains were laid.

Gas sold during the

year 238,163,476 Cubic feet,

Gas unaccounted for 22,354,024 " "

Gas used on Works,

Testing Stations

and Residences.. 2,880,500 " "

Difference in stock 60,000 " "

Increase in Gas sold

as compared with

last year 22.51 per cent.

Gas unaccounted for

in distribution ... 8.51 " "

H. KING HILLER, M.I. Mech. E.,

Engineer.

Shanghai, 31st December, 1903.

WORKING ACCOUNT for the Year ended

31st December, 1903.

Dr.

To Manufacture of Gas—

Cr. Tls.

Coal, etc., Carbonized.....131,070.33

Purifying Material,

Oil and Sundries. 2,562.22

Salaries and Wages. 18,866.05

Repairs and Maintenance of Works

and Residences; Renewal of Retorts,

Tools and Material; Fuel for Residences

and Workshops. 28,685.96

181,184.56

„Distribution of Gas—

Wages 7,480.30

Repairs and Maintenance of Mains,

Services and Public Lamps; Municipal

Charges for repairing Roads, and repairs to

Consumers' Fittings 10,355.40

17,835.70

To Management and

General Charges—

Salaries and Wages 9,433.02

Directors' Fees ... 5,000.00

Auditor's Fees..... 300.00

Medical Attendance 420.00

Printing and Stationery 1,699.34

Land and other

Taxes 2,693.44

Rent Allowances... 960.10

Fire Insurances ... 1,255.50

Legal Expenses ... 265.00

Office and Miscellaneous Expenses

1,133.65

23,160.05

Balance, being Profit on

Working Account..... 144,126.80

Tls. 366,307.11

Cr.

By Amount of Charges for Gas—

Gas sold during the year 293,786.54

„Residual Products—

Coke Tls. 42,679.21

Tar „ 10,040.78

52,719.99

„Fitting Account—

Profit for the year..... 19,800.58

Tls. 366,307.11

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT

for the Year ended 31st December, 1903.

Dr. Tls.

To Amount written off

for Depreciation—

Land and Buildings. 3,672.08

Manufacturing and

Distributing Plant 17,619.66

Furniture 328.45

21,620.29

„Amount transferred to Re-

newals and Depreciation

Account 25,000.00

„ Bonus to Staff 4,900.00

„ Final Dividend for 1902, 6%

on Capital, Tls. 400,000

(paid 25th February,

1903) 24,000.00

„ Bonus of Tls. 2.00 per Share

on 8,000 Shares (paid

25th February, 1903) ... 16,000.00

„ Interim Dividend for 1903,

7% on Capital, Tls.

500,300 (paid 31st July,

1903)..... 37,331.00

„ Interest on Debentures.—

5% on Tls. 100,000

Tls. 5,000.00

6% on Tls. 100,000

Tls. 6,000.00

6% on Tls. 110,000

(six months) Tls. 3,300.00

14,300.00

„ Bad and Doubtful Debts ... 205.77

„ Hongkong Agency Fees ... 147.38

„ Balance carried forward 115,427.59

Tls. 258,932.03

Cr. Tls.

By Balance brought forward

from last year..... 96,662.91

„ Return contribution from

Shanghai Cargo Boat

Company..... 11.50

„ Transfer Fees 55.50

„ Exchange Account (Dollars

being taken at 73 ex.) ... 8,304.33

„ Interest Account (Balance

thereof) 9,770.99

„ Balance of Working Ac-

count 1903 144,126.80

Tls. 258,932.03

RENEWALS AND DEPRECIATION ACCOUNT.

Dr. Tls.

To Balance carried forward..... 100,000.00

Tls. 100,000.00

Cr. Tls.

By Balance brought forward

from last year..... 75,000.00

„ Amount transferred from

Profit and Loss Account. 25,000.00

Tls. 100,000.00

BALANCE SHEET, 31st December, 1903.

Liabilities.		Tls.
Capital Account.		
10,666 Shares at Tls. 50 each	533,300.00	
Share Premium Account	108,172.55	
Debtenture Account.		
5% issue of 1897	100,000.00	
6% issue of 1899	100,000.00	
6% issue of 1903	110,000.00	
Debtenture Suspense Account.		
Premium received on Debtentures	1,416.16	
Renewals and depreciation account	100,000.00	
Interest payable	1,333.33	
Sundry creditors	27,104.48	
Deposit from coke contractor	3,730.00	
Deposit from compradore	1,104.00	
Deposit from gas consumers	15,487.83	
Unpaid dividends	24.00	
Balance at Debit of Current Account.		
With Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation	257,143.73	
Profit and Loss Account.		
Balance at Credit thereof	115,427.59	
		Tls. 1,474,243.67

Assets.

Land and Buildings. —		
Cost on 31st Dec., 1902	189,597.36	
Less written off for depreciation.	3,672.08	Tls.
	185,925.28	
Additions during the year	12,342.29	Tls.
	198,267.57	
Machinery for the Manufacture of Gas. —		
Cost on 31st Dec., 1902	282,589.48	
Less written off for depreciation.	7,589.48	
	275,000.00	
Additions during the year	32,380.95	
	307,380.95	
Mains, Services, &c., for the Distribution of Gas. —		
Cost on 31st Dec., 1902	308,214.76	
Less written off for depreciation.	8,214.76	
	300,000.00	
Additions during the year	156,484.14	
	456,484.14	
Plant and Buildings in Construction.		
New gasholder	119,355.60	
New retort house	172,426.71	
New boiler house	3,015.15	
	294,797.46	

Office Furniture:—

Valuation on 31st Dec., 1902	2,328.45	
Less written off for depreciation.	328.46	
	2,000.00	
Additions during the year	416.93	
	2,416.93	
Hongkew house property account	12,071.20	
Fire Insurance unexpired	788.00	
Stocks on hand:—		
Fittings, gas engines, gas stoves, &c.	119,199.93	
Coal, tar, purifying materials and gas in holders	21,634.87	
	140,834.80	

Sundry Debtors:—

Amounts due for gas, fittings, coke, tar, &c.	*60,383.48
Cash on hand	316.14
	Tls. 1,474,243.67

* Since collected Tls. 40,651.52.

JAMES L. SCOTT, } Directors.
J. COOPER,

GEO. R. WINGROVE, Secretary.

I hereby certify that I have compared the foregoing accounts with the General Ledger, and have found them in conformity therewith. I have compared the payments in the Cash book with the Vouchers and Bank's Pass book for the year ending 31st December, 1903, I have also examined the securities of the Company, and have found all in order.

W. H. ANDERSON, Auditor.

THE LAOU KUNG MOW COTTON SPINNING AND WEAVING CO., LD.

Report for presentation at the tenth Ordinary Meeting, of the Company, to be held at the Offices of the General Managers on 24th February, 1904, at 4 o'clock p.m.

The Directors submit their Report together with the Accounts of the Company for the twelve months ending 31st December, 1903.

Throughout the year the Mill has been worked during the day only; the machinery is in good working order.

In accordance with the resolution passed at the last General Meeting the sum of Tls. 44,253.58 has been written off to Depreciation Account.

This year's working shows a credit at Profit and Loss account of Tls. 64,668.44, which the Directors recommend be dealt with as follows:—

	Tls.
Depreciation of Property account, Chinese Houses	5,000.00
Reservoir and Land	
Improvements	6,000.00
Machinery	37,574.36
Furniture	594.08
To be carried forward to new account	15,500.00
	Tls. 64,668.44

DIRECTORS.

Mr. A. Korff and Mr. Chiang Liang-yu retire in rotation as required by the Articles of Association, but offer themselves for re-election.

AUDITOR.

Mr. G. R. Wingrove again offers himself for re-election as the Company's Auditor.

J. M. YOUNG, } Directors.
A. KORFF,

ILBERT & Co., General Managers.

Shanghai, 20th January, 1904.

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

31st December, 1903.

	Tls.
To Interest	22,632.73
Repairs and Renewals	2,431.62
Agency Commission	4,600.00
Directors' and Auditor's Fees	2,250.00
	31,864.35
Depreciation	44,753.58
Balance	64,668.44
	Total...141,286.37

	Cr.	Tls.
By Balance 1902		44,753.58
Transfer Fees		29.85
North Property Account		488.46
Balance of Spinning Account 1903		96,014.48
	Total...	141,286.37

BALANCE SHEET, 31st December, 1903.

Liabilities.		Tls.
Capital: 8,000 shares, of which are issued 7,158 shares		715,800.00
Overdraft at Bankers		137,973.22
Loan against Cotton		280,000.00
Sundry Creditors		15,742.38
Unpaid Dividends		80.00
Balance of Profit and Loss Account		64,668.44
	Total.....	1,214,264.04

Assets.

	Tls.
Buildings	195,576.47
Machinery	626,008.61
Less depreciation	93,434.25
	532,574.36
Property Chinese Houses	52,405.76
Less depreciation	7,405.76
	45,000.00
Reservoir and Land Improvements	32,889.86
Less depreciation	6,889.86
	26,000.00
Furniture	3,335.80
Less depreciation	781.63
	2,554.17
Value of Stock:—	
Yarn	71,380.06
Cotton and Waste	315,531.90
Coals	1,513.20
Mill Stores	20,978.93
	409,404.09
Unexpired Fire Insurance	3,154.95
	Total.....1,214,264.04

E. & O. E.

Shanghai, 20th January, 1904.

J. M. YOUNG, } Directors.
A. KORFF,

ILBERT & Co., General Managers.

I have examined the Books and Vouchers kept by the General Managers and find this Statement of Account in accordance therewith.

G. R. WINGROVE,
Auditor.

THE HONGKONG AND WHAMPOA DOCK CO., LD.

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS

to the ordinary yearly meeting of Shareholders, to be held at the Offices of the Company, Queen's Buildings, Victoria, Hongkong, on Monday, the 22nd February, 1904, at 12 o'clock noon.

To the Shareholders of the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company, Limited.

Gentlemen, The Directors have now to submit to you their Report, with a Statement of Accounts for the half-year ended 31st December, 1903.

The net profit for the six months, after paying interest due and all charges, amounts to.....\$514,396.84 to which has to be added the balance brought forward from last account

314,293.70
8828,690.04

and from this have to be deducted—

Directors' Fees	\$10,000.00
Auditors' Fees	750.00
	<u>10,750.00</u>

leaving available for appropriation\$817,940.04

The Directors recommend that a Dividend for the half-year of 12 per cent or \$300,000, and a Bonus of 2 per cent or \$50,000, in all \$350,000 be paid to the Shareholders; that \$42,599.35, be written from the value of Kowloon Docks, and the balance \$425,340.69 be carried to the new account.

The Fitting and Brass Shop machinery has been fixed up, and a capacious building for stores and tools erected.

Extensions have been found necessary to the Foundry and Joiner's Shop buildings, and additions to Plant in the Shipyard.

The Condensing plant, motors, etc., for the electric drive, and the standards for yard lighting, are on the spot. The engines and dynamos are shipped and may be expected shortly.

The Dredger "Canton River" has again been employed excavating the foreshore in front of Kowloon Dockyard to provide berths for ships under repairs, and is now under charter to Messrs. Butterfield & Swire for work at Canton.

DIRECTORS.

Messrs. G. H. Medhurst and C. Michelau having left the colony, Messrs. E. S. Wheeler and A. Haupt have been invited by the Directors to the vacant seats at the Board. Mr. E. W. Tilden has been invited to join the Board. These appointments require to be confirmed by the Shareholders at this meeting.

In accordance with clauses 78 and 85 of the Articles of Association, Messrs. D. E. Brown and A. Haupt retire by rotation, but being eligible offer themselves for re-election.

Sir Paul Chater, Kt., C.M., has been re-appointed Chairman for the year 1904.

AUDITORS.

The accounts have been audited by Messrs. Thomas Arnold and H. U. Jeffries. The Directors recommend Messrs. Arnold and Jeffries for re-election.

C. P. CHATER, Chairman.

Hongkong, 10th February, 1904.

July to December 1903.

CAPITAL ACCOUNT.

ASSETS.

December 31st, 1903.

Aberdeen.	\$	\$
To Value of Aberdeen Docks, as per last Statement		100,000.00
Kowloon.		
„ Value of Kowloon Docks, as per last Statement		1,886,579.39
Less amount since written off		36,579.39
		<u>1,850,000.00</u>
„ Amount paid on account of removal of Hill on the new Extension, Kowloon Marine Lot No. 27	74.25	
„ Working Expenses of Dredger Canton River dredging foreshore near Wharf and Shipbuilding Department ...	10,407.46	

To	Amount paid on account of two New Houses for European Foremen	7,057.59
"	Amount paid on account of new Fitting and Brass Shops ...	54,928.000
"	Amount paid on account of removing Hill at back of new Forge.....	449.00
"	Amount paid on account of new Electric Installation ...	3,937.00
"	Amount paid on account of new Hydraulic and Compressed Air Installation ...	2,595.68
"	Amount paid on account of additional Sanitary arrangements for No. 1 Dock	479.00
"	Amount paid on account of Moulding Shop Extension.....	10,634.00
"	Amount paid on account of Joiner's Shop Extension ...	13,880.00
"	Amount paid on account of Shipyard and Boiler Shop Extension.....	14,529.00
"	Amount paid on account of Sawmill converting Shed into Store ...	1,077.00
"	Amount paid on account of new Power House	30,054.00
"	Cost of Patent Plate Bending Rolls for Shipyard	22,405.42
"	Cost of New Bend Saws for Sawmill ...	655.00
"	Cost of Surface Condensing plant, Engines, Dynamos, Electric Motors, etc., for new Power House	103,637.23
"	Cost of new Machine Tools for Engine Shop	9,936.87
"	Cost of new Machine Tools for Brass Shop	5,862.85
	Cosmopolitan ..	
"	Value of Cosmopolitan Dock, as per last Statement	302,772.04
	Less amount since written off	2,772.04
"	Value of Tugs, Dredgers, Launches and Lighters	
"	Sundry Debtors	
"	Value of Material on hand	

LIABILITIES

31st December 1903.

	\$	\$
By Shareholders for 50,000 Shares of \$50 each, fully paid up		2,500,000.00
„ Admiralty Loan	£20,000. 0 0	
Less Repayments	14,236. 9 3	
	<u>£ 5,763.10.9@1/7</u>	72,563.88
„ Marine Insurance Account		17,500.00
„ Sundry Creditors		1,460,174.92
„ Balance of Profit brought forward from last Account	314,293.70	
„ Profit	514,396.34	
		<u>828,690.04</u>
		<u>4,878,928.84</u>

REVENUE ACCOUNT.

31st December 1903.

To Interest	38,462.39
„ Crown Rent	3,062.05
„ Fire Insurance	3,528.75
„ Office Expenses, Salaries, Stationery and Rent of Head Office	38,967.59
„ Drawing Office Expenses and Salaries	18,507.00
„ Telegrams	2,896.04
„ Legal Expenses	634.30
„ Marine Insurance Account	8,750.00
„ Profit	514,396.34
	<u>\$629,204.46</u>

\$

1st July to 31st December 1903.

By Net Earnings of the Company's three Establishments	622,886.00
„ Towing, Net Earnings	1,201.52
„ Dredger, Net Earnings	4,877.19
„ Bonus on Insurance Premiums &c	239.75
	<u>\$629,204.46</u>

E. & O. E.

Hongkong, 8th February, 1904.

W. B. DIXON,

Chief Manager.

THOS. I. ROSE,

Secretary.

We have examined the Books and Vouchers of the Company and hereby certify that the above Statements are in accordance therewith.

THOS. ARNHOLD, }
H. U. JEFFRIES, } Auditors.

THE WEIHAIWEI LAND AND BUILDING CO., LD.

REPORT OF DIRECTORS.—For presentation at the fifth Annual meeting of shareholders, to be held on Wednesday the 9th March, 1904, at 4.30 o'clock p.m.

The Directors have now to submit for the information of Shareholders the audited general statement of accounts and balance sheet for the year ending 31st December, 1903.

The four bungalows in Narcissus Bay were occupied during the summer season, but of the eight bungalows in Half Moon Bay, only four were let.

A sum of Tls. 1,200 was expended during the year in painting, general repairs and upkeep of the bungalows, which are now in good order.

The claim for bungalow rents (Tls. 3,470) on account of the summer of 1900 was returned by the Colonial Office without the looked-for redress. The whole matter has been again sent home, and a suitable opportunity will shortly be found of laying the case before Parliament.

Leases have already been signed for four bungalows for the coming season.

The company owns 422,9373 mow of land, comprised in the following six estates, of which so far only about 42 mow have been utilised, leaving about 381 mow to be developed.

Estate No. 1.—Consists of 108.54 mow on the beach in Narcissus Bay. On it there are four 5-roomed bungalows.

Estate No. 2.—Consists of 64.821 mow in Half Moon Bay. On it there are five 5-roomed and three 4-roomed bungalows.

Estate No. 3.—Consists of 19.6645 mow in Narcissus Bay.

Estate No. 4.—Consists of 90.383 mow on the south side of Flagstaff Hill.

Estate No. 5.—Consists of 56.415 mow east of Mahto.

Estate No. 6.—Consists of 83.114 mow east of the Iron Pier.

Directors.—Messrs. A. McLeod and E. Jenner Hogg, on their departure from Shanghai, resigned their seats on the Board, and Messrs. W. A. C. Platt and P. McGregor Grant were invited to join the Directorate. On his return to Shanghai, Mr. A. McLeod resumed his seat on the Board. Mr. P. F. Lavers retires in rotation, but being eligible for re-election, offers himself accordingly.

Auditor.—Mr. A. R. Leake resigns, but offers himself for re-election.

W. A. C. PLATT,
Chairman

Shanghai, 6th February, 1904.

WORKING ACCOUNT for the Year ending 31st December, 1903.

Dr.	Tls.
To Salaries and Wages	387.00
„ Fire Insurance	258.46
„ Interest	430.57
„ Printing, Stationery and Advertising	19.33
„ Shanghai Agency Charges	320.95
„ Weihaiwei Agency Charges	646.74
„ Hongkong Agency Charges	77.49
„ Repairs	1,223.29
„ Auditor's Fees	50.00
„ Legal Expenses	25.00
„ Government Taxes	292.28
„ Exchange	30.69
„ Balance Transferred to Profit and Loss Account	216.44
Tls....	3,977.64
Cr.	Tls.
By Rentals	3,974.64
„ Transfer Fees	3.00
Tls....	3,977.64

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

Dr.	Tls.
To Balance brought forward from last year	5,366.59
Tls.	5,366.59
Cr.	Tls.
By Balance of working account for 1903	216.44
„ Balance	5,150.15
Tls.	5,366.59

Dependency.—Claim on the British Government for rent of bungalows. Tls. 3,470.00 plus interest from 15th October, 1900

BALANCE SHEET.

Liabilities.	Tls.
Capital Account	91,850.00
Overdraft with the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation	6,415.74
Cash due Shanghai Agents	111.12
Sundry Creditors	148.00
Tls.	98,524.86
Assets.	Tls.
Estate No. 1.—Land	8,310.94
Buildings	17,542.37
Do. „ 2.—Land	6,334.90
Buildings	30,041.88
„ „ 3.—Land	1,422.87
„ „ 4.—Land	9,590.69
„ „ 5.—Land	4,616.10
„ „ 6.—Land	7,770.02
Furniture	7,233.70
Unexpired Fire Insurance	173.74
Profit and Loss Account	5,150.15
Cash with Weihaiwei Agents	337.50
Tls.	98,524.86

W. A. C. PLATT,
P. MCGREGOR GRANT, } Directors.

I hereby certify that I have examined the books and documents of the Weihaiwei Land and Building Company, Limited, for the year ending 31st December, 1903, and find the above statement of accounts to be in accordance therewith.

ARTHUR R. LEAKE, A.C.A.,
Chartered Accountant.

Shanghai, 6th February, 1904.

LAVERS & CLARK, Agents.

Amusements.

FREEAR'S FRIVOLITIES.

When one man undertakes on his sole responsibility what is usually allotted to a round dozen the first impulse of the on-looker is to admire the display of physical force. This is bound to happen whether the performer be a Sandow or a Hannibal Williams or a Willie Freear. Twelve men tugging at a heavy bar attract no attention because any other dozen navvies could do the same thing; but when one man hoists this same bar easily over his head and plays with it as a dandy with his cane, we burst into applause. Some of the applause which Mr. Freear won on Saturday night again and again from a crowded house was of this order. His tirelessness, as we said before his present appearance, is one of his most marked characteristics. With a fund of material picked up on long travels, there is apparently no reason, except his audience's convenience, why, once started, he should not continue amusing them for the length of a Chinese historical drama. And it is this immense energy of his that constitutes at once the strength and the weakness of an interesting and remarkable entertainment. He is over generous; a pardonable failing after all, when one has so much that is really good to offer. Perhaps the best impersonation on Saturday was that of the quaint battered old man who discourses on "Hard Luck." The make-up was wonderful; the humour original "not in the paltry sense of being new, but in the deeper sense of being old;" and it was delivered with a dry smack which made trebly sure that the points went right home. Mr. Freear discovered a new use for a newspaper and it is not for us to say it was not a wise one. As a Scotsman Mr.

Freear caught the typical pawkiness to a nicety; his Frenchman was a genial caricature; his Irishman and his coster less convincing. "The frolicsome youth" was one of the cleverest studies, and it was as impossible not to laugh at his hobbledehoyishness as it was at the wonderful mimicry of Minnie Palmer, "shy and sixteen." A temperance lecture without words, an electioneering address, a Christy Minstrels entertainment, a prima donna's song, a clergyman's recitation and a policeman's night out were some of the other hits. A word must be said of Mr. Freear's dancing, which is as varied and fantastic as his singing and acting. There is another final performance to-night, which should not be missed.

SPORT.

Football.

ENGINEERS v. S. F. C.

The Engineers' cup is likely to become a farce if the donors pursue the same tactics yearly as they did on Thursday. The match was fixed for Saturday, but the Engineers particularly wished to play the match on Thursday, and on Wednesday afternoon it was finally agreed to do so if a F. C. team could be got together at such short notice. The S. F. C. found that they could not get their first eleven together, as five men were otherwise engaged, and at noon yesterday two members of the Engineers' committee agreed that the match should be played on Saturday as arranged. They stipulated, however, that as there would otherwise be a number of disappointed spectators on the field a pick-up match should be played on Thursday afternoon. When the time came the Captain of the Engineers said that the match must be played or the Engineers would keep the cup. The rival club offered to let them keep it, but the Engineers insisted upon a game and finally such members of the F. C. as were present were formed into a team. Many of the best players were absent.

The game was a fine one right through. It was fast, yet absolutely free from fouls. In the first five minutes the F. C. rushed through a goal from a very hot shot by Lemarchand. From then until half time there was little to choose between the two teams, and neither side made any further score. About ten minutes after resuming the Engineers scored a goal through Bisset in a scrimmage in front of the F. C. goal. Soon afterwards Miller neatly headed a splendid pass between the same posts, and no further score being made the Engineers were victors by two to one.

The F. C. defence was very strong. Barry, Tyack, and Morfe were particularly sound, and the latter played an excellent game. Donnelly was pressed in to goal, and rendered valuable service in that position. Lanning was the pick of the forwards. For the Engineers' defence Brandt was probably the best in the team, saving time after time in magnificent style. Macdonald was as usual very good but not up to his old form. The forwards played with better combination than those of the F. C.

Altogether the match was a very good one, and the only thing to be regretted was that it was forced upon the F. C. in the way mentioned.

S. F. C. v. H. M. S. BRITOMART.

The naval teams did not show up well on Saturday afternoon. In the above match the F. C. walked away from their opponents, who never had a chance from the start. After a somewhat uninteresting game, without any brilliancy on either side, the F. C. were winners by ten goals to nil.

S. R. C. F. H. M. S. ROSARIO.

This match was in many respects similar to the F. C. one. In the first half the R. C. scored four goals to their opponents' nil. In the second half the sailors retaliated with one goal, while the Rees obtained six, thus winning by 10 to one.

The "Tai-koo" Paper Hunt.

The Tai-koo Paper Hunt took place yesterday and resulted as follows:—

Mr. H. Manson	1
Mr. A. E. Hobbins	2
Mr. A. F. Wheen	3

Saturday's Hunt.

Saturday's Hunt was thought to be the last of the season, but if the weather is favourable there will be another hunt next Saturday.

The card read as follows:—

- 1.—Mr. A. E. Parr on Mediocrity.
- 2.—Mr. S. W. Pratt on Gama.
- 3.—Dr. Marshall on the Puddock.
- 4.—Mr. W. Scott on Sirocco.
- 5.—Mr. Campbell on Nithsdale.
- 6.—Mr. J. A. Brand on Orloff.
- 7.—Mr. B. S. Laurence on Midget.
- 8.—Mr. F. W. Potter on Red Satin.

Shooting—"B" Company, S. V. C.

The Monthly Cups in "B" Company were competed for on Saturday last, the 13th instant.

Targets and Scoring:—Regimental.
Ranges:—200 and 500 yards.

Position:—Prone.

The following is a return of the scores above 40:—

"A" Class.

	200 yds.	500 yds.	Total.	H'cup.	Not Score.
Corp. A. Hill.....	25	26	51	2	49
Lient. H. R. H. Thomas	26	23	49	2	47
Sergt. J. J. Mansfield	24	24	48	2	46
Priv. F. Large	26	20	46	0	46
Corp. J. D. Gordon ..	25	23	48	4	44
Priv. C. Hill	25	23	48	5	43
Corp. F. Hulbert	23	20	43	0	43
Priv. McAnn	27	22	49	10	39
Capt. T. E. Trueman ..	25	15	40	6	34

"B" Class.

Col. Sergt. Van Bergen	24	26	50	0	50
Priv. Chandler	23	24	47	0	47
.. P. McGuone	25	21	46	0	46
.. R. C. Howlett	27	18	45	0	45
Dmr. K. McKelvie	25	16	41	0	41
Priv. Nellenman	26	15	41	0	41

Winner:—"A" Class, Corp. A. Hill for the second time.

Winner:—"B" Class, Col. Sergt. Van Bergen for the first time (a new Cup).

The Shanghai Golf Club.

HANKOW CUP COMPETITION.

	Gross.	H'cup.	Net.
J. B. Walsh	104	20	84 Winner.
J. H. T. McMurtrie	83+	2	85 2nd.
J. Graham	106	20	86 } Tie for
P. W. MacIntosh	101	15	86 } 3rd.
C. Selby Moore	93	6	87
G. F. Collyer	87	Scr.	87
J. P. Lowe	104	14	90
L. F. Bridges	102	8	94

33 cards not returned.

THE "BIG POOL."

February 13th to February 22nd inclusive.

	Gross.	H'cup.	Net.
J. H. T. McMurtrie	77+	2	79 } Tie for
A. W. Walkinshaw	78+	1	79 } first.
C. H. P. Hay	92	10	82 } Tie for
E. O. Cumming	92	10	82 } third.
J. B. Walsh	104	20	84
C. Biron	89	4	85
E. W. Clements	99	14	85
H. M. Gorton	109	24	85
J. Dewar	87	2	85
H. P. Winslow	98	12	86
C. Selby Moore	92	6	86
J. P. Lowe	110	14	86
R. S. Ivy	105	18	87
G. F. Collyer	87	Scr.	87
P. W. Mackintosh	103	15	88
C. M. Bain	98	10	88
J. Graham	109	20	89
E. F. Mackay	98	5	93
C. R. Shaw	103	8	95
B. G. Tours	115	20	95

133 cards having been taken out the 1st, 2nd and 3rd prizes were worth respectively

\$93.10.

\$26.60.

\$13.30.

It should be noted that one member who returned a card which would have tied for first prize was disqualified by the Committee.

Correspondence.

BOXERS IN MANCHURIA.

To the Editor of the

"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—A letter dated the 6th instant has come in from the Rev. Mr. Macintyre at Haicheng, about 30 miles from the port of Newchwang, telling how the magistrate there has acted in putting down a recrudescence of the I-Ho-Chuan under the name of the Liu-Ho-Chuan, which may be of interest and may help to put foreigners in the interior on their guard. Speaking of the prospect of war he says: "For the sake of the members I have clung to the thought of peace. To-night I had a long confab with some of them, and it made me inexpressibly sad. What are they to do with their women and children? so they ask me. Come into the city? Why the Liu Ho-Chuan are said to have come into the city to-night! and news came this afternoon that the Wu Ying, our chief military officer, has fallen in battle with the rebels across the river. He was drawn into an ambush and cruelly done for. It seems he came back here asking help of our magistrate, who scolded him and bundled him out with less than a dozen men, and they are now scattered and we have not 20 soldiers left in the city. The evil is aggravated by the fact that the Wu Ying was sent for because the French priest of Newchwang proper was attacked at a place N. W. of Newchwang, some 40 li, and had to be rescued by the village guild. It seems a well-to-do member begged the priest to come, as the Boxers were threatening. He went, so I am told, to their help, but only, brought the evil to a climax. So we have a foreign priest mobbed and the military officer who went to avenge him killed, and rumour that the enemy is in the city with us at a time when duty calls the magistrate to the scene of battle. And what can the Russians now do with their thoughts directed to Japan?"

"P. S. 7th February.

"The robbers were annihilated by the several village Tuan Lien and a few soldiers from Newchwang. It seems the wretches were surprised at night in their homes and the leader burned to death with his family in his burning house. The said leader was known as Chang Pan-feng (Half-daft) alias Pan-sheng (Half-divine) and was therefore of the Boxer persuasion. The magistrate left last night to post mortem the fallen officer and was met 15 li from this by messengers reporting the victory. I hear of large captures and at least ten men coming here to be executed in order to impress the population. Also a captive woman and two girls and a priest, all Boxers (Hung T'eng-Lung. Red Lamp Society). The deceased's soldiers were roused, it seems, and roused the country and made a clean sweep of the gang. I hear the French priest was not hurt in any way. 'Peace or war?' was forgotten to-day over the thought that after all Boxers can be dealt with and snuffed out by the local magistrate, if taken in time."

In a later letter of the 8th, Mr. Macintyre gives some more information about the affair. It seems that altogether 20 of the Boxers were burned in their houses, and six were sent to Haicheng, while three were begged off by the guild and guaranteed by them. The girls are set free, and a lot of little boys who were implicated got off with a sound thrashing. The Russian guard at Haicheng station have offered protection if needed. The magistrate was safe back and had awarded the widow of the murdered officer 5 tien of land belonging to the Boxers.

I hear that this new society, Liu-Ho-Chuan, or the old, Boxers under another name, has also appeared in Chinchou and most likely in other towns and villages of Manchuria. I am glad to see that Yuan Shih-kai is taking such vigorous measures against them in Chihli, but the fear is that in Manchuria, away from the Railway, the Russians will not be able to keep order now that war has commenced and the whole country may be in a blaze with it in a very short time.

I am, etc.,

T. L. BRANDER.

Newchwang, 11th February.

THE ENGINEERS' STORY.

To the Editor of the

"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—Referring to a report in your paper of the 19th on the Shanghai F. C. and Engineers' match, your reporter (?) is a great deal out in his one-sided account.

For your reporter's benefit, I may tell you that it has been the rule for years back, for Shanghai to give the Engineers the privilege of naming the day. Also that it was arranged on or before the 15th to play on Thursday, 18th.

Each member of the Engineers' team was notified by letter before 10 a.m. on the 16th, so I can't see where the "must play" comes in.

Then again your reporter (?) writes: "The match must be played or the Engineers would keep the cup." Now I have it on very good authority that anything like this was not said. Does he know that there is such a thing as a code of rules governing this cup? If not, let him apply to either of the club secretaries and I have no doubt he will be supplied with a copy.

Sorry for troubling you over this gross injustice to the Engineers.

I am, etc.,

EX-HON. SEC.,
Engineers' Football Club.

2nd February.

THE SECOND ATTACK ON PORT ARTHUR.

To the Editor of the

"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—We beg to forward you the following literal translation of the official telegram from Admiral Togo received at Tokio at 10.10 p.m. the 16th inst. for publication. We have already published the substance of the report, but now we are compelled to publish the whole translation of the said telegraphic report:—

"On the 13th a flotilla of destroyers left for Port Arthur under heavy snow-storm. Although on their way to the destination they lost sight of each other, the Hayatori and Asagiri succeeded in reaching the entrance of the harbour. The Asagiri having spied carefully upon the entrance of the harbour at 3 a.m. on the 14th, when she was furiously fired upon from the forts and guardships, put forth a torpedo against a warvessel, and after bombarding a scout, safely came back. The Hayatori reached the entrance at 5 a.m. and keeping very close thereto discovered two warvessels in the dark. In spite of shells being poured upon her, the Hayatori torpedoed one of the war-vessels and, having seen its explosion, retired safely. Although the exact result of this brave attack by these two destroyers is unknown owing to the darkness of night, I am convinced that it has succeeded at least in again terrifying the enemy."

I am, etc.,

K. YOSHIKAWA,
Vice-Consul.

Consulate-General of Japan.
Shanghai, 22nd February.

Miscellaneous.

IMPERIAL DECREES.

(BY TELEGRAPH FROM PEKING.)

(SPECIALLY TRANSLATED FOR THE "NORTH CHINA DAILY NEWS.")

17th February.

Decree commanding further delay in the payment of land and poll taxes by farmers in the prefectures of Shuntien and Tientsin, Chihli province, owing to the drought last year and the small quantity of snow since the beginning of January. Not only are the farmers of the affected districts permitted to delay paying last half-year's taxes, which were by extra Imperial clemency due to be paid this month, but the time limit is to be extended to the last of the summer months of the present current year, as a mark of the Emperor's sympathy for the distressed condition of his subjects.

22nd February.

As Prince Pu Lun, 4th Order, is about to proceed upon a mission abroad (St. Louis Exposition) his post of Captain-General of the Manchurian Banner Corps is temporarily given to Fên Ch'ê, Consort of an Imperial Princess.

NOTES ON NATIVE AFFAIRS.

18th February.

The Secret Societies in the Yangtze Provinces.

With the advent of every new year and its attendant festivities in China, it has been the custom time and again in the history of this country for malcontents to attempt some sort of *coup* upon the powers that are, and alive to this fact the Viceroy and Governors of the Yangtze provinces have not failed to make every preparation each year at that period, to suppress the least sign of such disturbances within their several jurisdictions. There have been no exceptions to the usual rule this year in Nanking, Neanking (Anch'ing) Wuchang and Changsha, the provincial capitals of Kiangsu, Anhui, Hupeh, and Hunan; on the contrary, dispatches received from those cities all report that owing to the war in the North the high authorities of the Yangtze provinces here united in taking extraordinary precautions against riotous disturbances—especially anti-foreign—in consequence of which large bodies of troops have been collected at various strategic points of importance so as to be ready to give mutual assistance to one another in the event of any serious rising of the secret societies, such as the Kolao Hui, Great and Little Sword Societies, and the like. These movements of Chinese troops in the Yangtze Valley have probably given rise to various rumours of expected trouble against foreigners in the Yangtze treaty ports and inland towns, but with the precautions taken by the high provincial authorities concerned there is no present fear of any anti-foreign disturbances, nor will there be any so long as these precautions are not relaxed. The lessons learnt in 1900, with the great progress in enlightened views amongst the high mandarins throughout the Empire, will be a sufficient deterrent to their countenancing any further anti-foreign movements just now. From Szechuan province also comes news that Viceroy Hsi Liang, who has a very efficient and enlightened lieutenant in Taotai Tsai Nai-huang—formerly of the Bureau of Foreign Affairs of Hunan, has also been taking extra precautionary measures against likely risings of Boxer adherents and followers of the notorious Yü Mao-tze, so that with proper care peace can also be secured in that usually riotous province during the present disturbances in the North.

The Mounted Bandits of Manchuria.

A dispatch from a reliable source in the North reports that there are no less than 32,000 mounted bandits in the three Manchurian provinces, of which number 20,000 are in Fengtien province (Lower Manchuria), 8,000 in Kirin (Central Manchuria), and about 4,000 in Heilungchiang or Northern Manchuria. Of the Fengtien mounted bandits 14,000 were enrolled and armed by the Russians, but no sooner was the news of Japanese success—naturally greatly enlarged—at Port Arthur received than nine-tenths of these bandits deserted, carrying with them their arms and ammunition, and large quantities of food supplies and loot besides. There is naturally a great hatred entertained by these bandits against the Russians, especially the Cossacks, and with the arrival of the Japanese armies in Manchuria we may probably hear of bodies of Cossacks and East Siberian sharpshooters being cut off by these mounted freebooters, who are not only splendid horsemen, but very hardy and brave when properly led.

20th February.

The War.

A Shanhaikuan dispatch states that the Russian detachment hitherto staying at Shanhaikuan left that place on the 10th inst., for Newchwang, and that the detachment went away in a hired special train. There are now no Russian troops in Shanhaikuan.

Bandits in Fengtien.

A North Chinchou dispatch states that a Chinese military officer who had been recently sent by the district magistrate of Haichêng, Fengtien province (Lower Manchuria), to suppress a band of brigands in the vicinity of that city, was ambushed by the bandits and during the fighting which ensued captured by the latter. The captured officer who seemed to have been especially obnoxious to the bandits for some reason or other was literally sliced to pieces by them before having his head chopped off. Three soldiers also lost their lives and half a dozen were wounded.

Russian Attempted Obstruction.

A Peking letter reports that as soon as M. Lessar, the Russian Minister at Peking, heard that orders had been issued to General Ma Yü-kun to occupy Shanhaikuan and the region north of it, on the west of the Liao River, the former immediately called at the Waiwupu to protest against this movement of Chinese troops. One of the excuses set forth by the Russian Minister was that the Chinese troops were so undisciplined that there would certainly arise trouble between them and Russian troops along the Liao river. Needless to say M. Lessar's objections were unheeded by the Chinese Government.

Chinese Troops Restless on the Liao River.

As the above were being written a telegraphic dispatch from the North states that General Ma Yü-kun's troops which are encamped on the western banks of the Liao river are getting restless and out-of-hand. The troops are said to be most eager to attack the Russian troops on the eastern banks of the river and that already small parties of his men, evading their superior officers, have crossed over to the Russian side and come to blows with the Muscovite patrols.

Chinese Troops at Kalgan.

Owing to the receipt of news of bodies of Russian troops being seen in the vicinity of Kalgan (Changchiakou), the Peking government has sent a brigade (3,500 men) of foreign-modelled troops to repel by force of arms any attempted entrance of Russian troops.

22nd February.

The Chinese Commission to St. Louis.

The China Merchants' steamer Anping has been chartered by the Chinese Government to carry Mr. Wang Kai-kah, Chinese Vice-Commissioner to the St. Louis Exposition, up to Tientsin to meet his colleague Prince Pu Lun, Chief Commissioner to the Exposition, who is expected to leave Peking on the 4th proximo. Mr. Wang Kai-kah leaves Shanghai on the 26th instant and escorts Prince Pu Lun to the United States.

The Neutrality of China.

The Waiwupu has issued to the Tartar Generals, Viceroys and Governors of provinces, copies containing translations into Chinese of the Neutrality Laws from books on International Law, with instructions that they may be scrupulously observed by all the officials and people of

the Chinese Empire, not even excepting Manchuria, whose three Tartar Generals, namely, Tsêng Ch'í of Moukden, Ch'ang Shun of Kirin, and Chin Ch'ang of Tsitsihar, have also received copies of these Neutrality laws and instructions affecting same. The Shanghai Taotai Mr. Yuan, has also received copies from Nanking and their contents have been embodied in a proclamation to the officials and people within his jurisdiction of Soochow, and Sungkiang prefectures and Tait'sang sub-prefecture. Questions are however being asked by Western educated Chinese of the use of these neutrality proclamations of the Taotai when as a matter of fact he cannot enforce them.

Buying off Mounted Bandits at Dalny.

The "Sinwén-pao" states that a dispatch has been received from North Chinchow reporting that a body of five hundred Chinese Mounted Bandits, enrolled by the Russian authorities, while stationed at Dalny broke out into open mutiny the other day upon receipt of news of Russian reverses at Port Arthur and began plundering the town. This created a panic amongst the Russians in Dalny and would have ended seriously for them had not the leader of the Bandits been bought off by the Russians and a promise made to give a monthly sum of \$1,500 to the Bandits if they would keep quiet.

23rd February.

Mounted Bandits in Manchuria.

A dispatch from a reliable source in the North reports that only a few of the Hungtutze ("Red Beards") mounted bandits, enrolled by the Russian authorities in Manchuria, are so far remaining loyal to their employers, the great majority having joined hands with the bands that have sworn eternal hatred against the Russians. The territory occupied by these mounted bandits is now divided into six districts, each under its own principal chief, and the programme of action sketched at a recent meeting of the six principal chiefs near Moukden is to be a systematic tearing up of the rails of the Manchurian railway and the destruction of all telegraph lines and poles under Russian control. This including cutting off straggling parties of Russian troops and intercepting supplies will give the bandits quite enough occupation until the arrival of the Japanese forces, when it is said that the chiefs of the bandits will ask to be enrolled into the Japanese service. The present neutrality of China, it is explained, is the reason why the bandits above noted cannot fight under the Chinese flag. There are, however, fears expressed in Mandarin circles that so great is the hatred against Russians in the North that the Chinese troops and armed Manchurian militia may force the hands of their government to open hostilities.

The Mixed Court Magistracy.

Apparently the high authorities of this province do not know their own minds and seem determined to remove from the Mixed Court bench any incumbent who shows any ability to perform its duties. Last year they removed the popular Mr. Chang Chên and put a Mr. Têng in his place for very slight reasons. Mr. Têng being found unfitted for the post, a very good and capable man was next appointed three weeks ago in the person of Mr. Kuan Chun, an M.A., of Wuchang, who had also studied English for several years, in Shanghai and also in Viceroy Chang Chih-tung's Academy in Wuchang. One would have expected that having at last managed to place an English-speaking

official fitted in every way satisfactorily to fulfil the multifarious and arduous duties of Magistrate of the Mixed Court, they would have only been too glad to keep Mr. Kuan Chun there; but the Manchu Provincial Treasurer at Soochow, Hsiao Tsêng, thinks he knows better, and we now hear that he has appointed some new and untried person to take Mr. Kuan Chun's place. These constant changes must be very troublesome and irksome to the foreign Assessors when trying remanded or adjourned cases of importance at the Mixed Court, and it is to be hoped that a remonstrance will be made at the proper quarters, protesting against such a frivolous way of doing things. Whenever a good man has been sent to fill an important post like the International Mixed Court he should be kept there; such an institution ought not, for very obvious reasons, to be made the dumping ground for untried and almost illiterate persons like one or two of the present incumbent's predecessors, simply because a Provincial Treasurer or Judge wishes to give a post to a protégé of his without regard to his qualifications.

24th February.

The Mandjour in Shanghai.

The "Sinwén-pao" has the following statement from its Peking correspondent which if true shows the ridiculous position Russia is taking upon herself in the eyes of the Chinese, especially among the educated classes. It is to the effect that when the Waiwupu asked the Russian Minister at Peking the other day the reason of the Russian cruiser Mandjour's continued presence in Shanghai the reply was made that the cruiser was wanted to protect (sic) the Russian Consul there, on which account no steps should be taken by the Chinese authorities to send the Mandjour away from her moorings in the Huangpu river. The Russian Minister further stated that the demand of the Shanghai Taotai upon the Russian Naval authorities on board the Mandjour to leave the jurisdiction of that Taotai within twenty-four hours was due to the influence of the Japanese Consul in Shanghai and therefore contrary (sic) to International Neutrality laws. With reference to the above the "Sinwén-pao" hears that the Waiwupu has given consent to the request of the Russian Minister (to permit the Mandjour to remain in Shanghai.)

From other sources we learn that Viceroy Wei Kuang-tao at Nanking and the Shanghai Taotai are most anxious to enforce the neutrality laws here, but that owing to the receipt of a dispatch by the Taotai from the Russian Consul-General here stating that the Waiwupu had given consent to the Russian Minister's request that the Mandjour may remain in Shanghai, with the additional proviso that she shall be made to anchor in the stream and not by the side of any jetty or wharf, the Taotai is said to be in a quandary what to do at the present moment.

The Neutrality of China.

It was reported in local Mandarin circles yesterday that the Chinese fast cruisers Haitien and Haich'i were expected to arrive at Woosung this morning from Kiangyin to enforce the Neutrality of Shanghai. This is as it should be.

Yuan Shih-kai as Commander-in-Chief.

A Tientsin dispatch states that Viceroy Yuan Shih-kai has received special instructions from the Throne to take up the supreme command of the Chinese

forces at Shanhaikuan and the region outside the Great Wall west of the Liao-river—the territory east of that river being Lower Manchuria and in the present occupation of the Russian forces. Viceroy Yuan Shih-kai is to command all the foreign-modelled troops of the North, and all such as are to be sent North from the Liangkang and Hukuang provinces. Orders have already been given for all the foreign-modelled troops of Viceroy Yuan's own special command to assemble in the vicinity of Shanhaikuan and join the forces of General Ma Yü-kun who will be Viceroy Yuan's second in command. It is estimated—not counting the rabble—that Yuan and Ma have between them no less than 45,000 good troops, among whom there are 5,000 cavalry and ninety-six quick-firing field guns. The Liangkang and Hukuang provinces will provide 15,000 more by the end of March next. Yang Shih-hsiang, Provincial Treasure of Chihli, will be Acting Viceroy of Chihli when Yuan Shih-kai proceeds to Shanhaikuan.

THE NEUTRALITY OF CHINA.

We have been favoured with the following translation:—

Proclamation of Yuan the Shanghai Superintendent of Customs defining the neutrality of China during the war between Japan and Russia. On 14th February of the present year I received a dispatch from the Nanyang Tachen Wei by telegram stating that he has received the following edict. "Japan and Russia being now at war with each other it appears to us the sovereign authority in China that both these nations are on friendly terms with us, and that we ought to be neutral. We have therefore formulated the following regulations for the guidance of our people during this war. The Manchu Commandants, Viceroy, and Governors, are hereby ordered to direct all civil and military officers under their jurisdiction to act in accordance with these rules. They should issue proclamations to the army and people carefully to attend to the same regulations so that the harmony of the nations concerned may be strengthened and the peace of the world promoted. There should be no misconduct or misunderstanding and to secure this result the rules are here stated that all may know them. Respect this."

The Viceroy having received this decree issued it in a proclamation accordingly. He adds that he learns by a dispatch from the Peiyang Tachen Yuen that he has received the following rules for neutrals pointing out what they are forbidden to do. They have been formulated by the Waiwupu and have been telegraphed by that board to the Peiyang Viceroy directing him to issue them in the form of a proclamation that they may be made known everywhere. All men on land or on sea or places on rivers, in all commercial ports, cities and market towns should know that our country China is on friendly terms with Japan and with Russia. These two countries are now at war and our people belong to a neutral nation; as neutrals they must not assist the belligerents with any arm requirements. We must not do anything to disturb our peaceful relations with either country. Our people must not disobey the rules of international law. We shall then be on more amicable terms with the people of both these nations. Here follow the prohibitory rules which must be strictly obeyed by all persons who read

this proclamation without evasion or inattention.

1.—No Chinese subject may take part or assist in the war or become a soldier in the belligerent armies.

2.—No Chinese ships, junks or boats may go to the belligerent countries seeking employment nor must they respond to any invitation to aid in capturing the vessels of the enemy or in transport service.

3.—No Chinese ships, or boats must be sold or chartered to the fighting nations. They may not take munitions of war as lading for either of the belligerents, nor may they act for them or assist them in any way already indicated, whether to supply what they require for the war or to help them in capturing the vessels or property of the foe.

4.—Chinese subjects may not buy prohibited articles for the belligerent States nor may they within Chinese territory manufacture contraband goods for conveyance to and sale to the belligerents.

The naval requisites which it is forbidden to supply to belligerents are (1) cannon shot, lead bullets and gunpowder together with all kinds of warlike weapons (2) saltpetre and sulphur with any other materials used in the manufacture of gunpowder (3) ships or boats which could be of use in a navy together with materials for constructing such vessels (4) the communication of documents which can be of service in naval and military affairs.

5.—Chinese subjects may not carry in vessels, generals, officers or soldiers to assist belligerents.

6.—Chinese subjects may not lend money to the belligerents.

7.—The vessels of Chinese subjects may not enter such ports of the belligerents as are closed to navigation except when obliged by stress of weather.

8.—Vessels of Chinese subjects when they enter these localities where the present war is proceeding must not object to search being made on board by the war vessels of the belligerents.

9.—Chinese subjects may not furnish belligerents with information on matters of a military and naval nature.

10.—The vessels of the belligerents while in Chinese ports may purchase articles required for navigation if in so doing they observe the rules specially laid down for guidance in such matters. With this exception Chinese subjects are not allowed to sell provisions, coal or charcoal to belligerents.

11.—With regard to matters not included in the above regulations, which may require from time to time to be considered, due attention will be bestowed on them as they occur. Regulations in accordance with international law will from time to time be issued which it will be necessary for Chinese subjects carefully to observe.

THE WEDDING OF A FIREMAN.

An interesting and pretty wedding took place at the Cathedral on Monday afternoon, the contracting parties being Miss Ethel Louise Stewart and Mr. Francis Schwyzer. The bridegroom has for some years been a member of the Mih-ho-long Fire Company, and the Company therefore turned out in uniform to wish him and his wife joy. The bride, who looked charming in a white satin gown, arrived at the Cathedral at about 3.30, accompanied by her father. Going into church

she had to pass through a double row of firemen. The Rev. C. J. F. Symonds conducted the service, and Mr. Brand acted as best man. Miss C. Hardy was bridesmaid, and the two Masters Cheetham acted as pages. After the service, while the happy couple had gone into the vestry to sign their names, the firemen again lined up, and when the newly wedded pair came out into the porch they were greeted with a storm of rice. Three cheers were given as they drove away. The Mih-ho-long then drove up on the ladders to No. 82, Bubbling Well Road, where the bride's parents gave a reception. Numerous speeches were made, the first from Mr. Cheetham proposing the health of the wedded pair. Mr. Brand proposed the health of the bridesmaid. Mr. Bidwell spoke for the firemen, and Mr. Schwyzer in reply said that although he knew many of the young men present to be excellent firemen, he thought they would make still better husbands, and he expressed a wish to be present at some of their weddings. The loving cup was then handed round.

Mr. and Mrs. Schwyzer received some lovely presents, the most noticeable being those from the Swiss Society, and the Mih-ho-long. The newly married pair are to spend their honeymoon in a houseboat, and about 5.30, amidst another shower of rice, with shoes on the top of the carriage, and an old fire boot dragging behind, they drove off to Jessfield to join their boat.

FIRES.

While the Fuhlee fire was still smouldering at 4.15 a.m. on Friday (12th) the alarm again rang out three bells, this time for an outbreak in Chekiang Road. Those of the Brigade who were not too exhausted with their previous exertions again turned out, and the fire was got under without very much difficulty. The fire originated in a small shop, No. 278, Chekiang Road, and the cause is unknown. Nos. 276, 277, 278 were burnt out; 274, 275 and 279 were more or less damaged by fire and water. No. 278 was insured for Tls. 500. The other buildings are not insured.

Shortly after the alarm was given for the Fuh-lee fire the police discovered another fire in an alleyway off Peking Road. It is believed to have been caused by sparks from Messrs. Hall and Holtz's premises. The alarm was not given again, as the police got the outbreak under without much difficulty.

There was a fire in Pootung on Sunday night (14th) and by the bright glare which came across the river it seemed as if it were fairly large. The alarm was rung but the brigade did not turn out. The second fire was in the western suburb.

When 8 bells sounded on Sunday night (14th), the fireboat went down river with men from the Deluge, Mih-ho-long, and Victoria Companies. After going some distance, and colliding with two unlighted garbage boats, it was discovered that the fire was some way inland and the float therefore came back to her moorings.

At 1 a.m. on Monday (15th) 7 bells rang out from the bell-tower for a fire in Avenue Road. The Mih-ho-long went to the scene first and found a timber yard with some carpenters' sheds ablaze. Streams were promptly got on and the flames being attacked from all sides were confined to a small area. After working for some time the firemen left the coolie corps in charge. The fire burnt itself out about 5 a.m. The origin is unknown.

At about 7.30 a.m. on Wednesday (17th) the alarm rang out for a fire in No. 1 district. The fire broke out in the upper part of 46, Nanzing Road, and was caused by a joss candle setting light to some paper. When the brigade arrived, houses were burning on both sides of the road. The fire was burning most fiercely. Owing to the inflammable nature of the materials of which the houses in this street are built, it was some time before the firemen could get the flames under control. Nos. 46, 47, 48, 35, 36, 105, 106 and 107 Nanzing Road were totally destroyed, and Nos. 49, 34, 108 and 109 were more or less damaged by fire and water. The burnt houses were not insured. They were all small Chinese shops. The property is owned by Messrs. Scott and Carter, and Messrs. E. D. Sassoon.

There were two fires on Thursday morning (18th). The alarm was given for the first at about 1 a.m. The outbreak started at 260, Taku Road, and is believed to have been caused by a kerosene lamp exploding. The Deluge got on fire water. The flames were got under quickly. No. 270 was burnt out, and Nos. 271-2 damaged by fire and water. No. 270 was insured with the Continental for Tls. 2,000, and the National Union for Tls. 3,000; Nos. 271-2 were insured with the Salamander for Tls. 1,500. All the damaged houses were small shops.

The second fire broke out at 2 a.m. at No. 231, Kiangse Road. The Mih-ho-long, in whose district this fire was, had not left the first outbreak when the bell went. They found all the hydrants occupied by companies who had been taken off from the other fire, but had to remain until 4.30 a.m., as the coolie corps was at Taku Road. The origin is unknown, and the fire was confined to this house. No. 245 was slightly damaged by fire and water.

At 10.30 a.m. on Monday the bell towers rang out two bells for a fire in No. 2 district. The Hongkew police received a telephone message saying that some one had telephoned to the Central Station from the General Hospital and stated that there was a fire. The Fire Companies at once turned out, but their services were not required. It appears that two foreigners, while passing an alley in Tien-dong Road, noticed smoke and flames issuing from a small native house. With the help of a native constable, they put out the fire before the brigade arrived.

MORE FIRING ON NEUTRAL SHIPS.

EXTRAORDINARY EXPERIENCES OF THE HSIPING.

19th February.

The Chinese Engineering and Mining Company's steamers are unlucky. When the Fuping was fired upon, as she was leaving Port Arthur, the affair was described by the Russians as a mistake. Now another of their vessels, the Hsiping, has had an experience, not so disastrous fortunately but quite as remarkable. Fired at four times without cause or warning, ordered into D. Day over mines newly-laid and of uncertain location, and detained there without justification for four days, it is no wonder that Captain Macfarlane has filed a strong protest with the authorities of the Russian port.

By permission of Captain Macfarlane we give what is practically a transcription from his log of an eventful passage.

The Hsiping left Chinwangtao on the 10th February just after midnight, bound

for Shanghai. She experienced a head gale and very high sea, and the vessel laboured heavily, shipping large quantities of water. At 6.30 a.m. it was found that the tarpaulin of the No. 4 hold had been washed off by the sea and that water had got into the 'tween decks. The gale continued and the sea was running very high. Captain Macfarlane decided therefore to run into Port Arthur roads for shelter. He passed the Liautishan Promontory and lighthouse about noon on the same day, and saw a large Russian cruiser, cruising off and on the lighthouse. The cruiser turned and escorted the Hsiping into the roads.

At a quarter past one, when the Hsiping arrived at the anchorage, a Russian cruiser at anchor fired a shot at her and shortly afterwards (not before) hoisted the signal "anchor instantly." The direction was followed as soon as possible.

At a quarter past four the weather having moderated, and the hatches having been taken off to see that all was right below the Hsiping weighed and proceeded for Shanghai. She had gone about a mile or so away from the cruiser at anchor when the latter opened fire, and fired three shots. One came towards the Hsiping's quarter, the second fell astern. By this time the Hsiping had stopped and rounded, but the third shot came and passed over her. The Hsiping proceeded back. A torpedo boat destroyer came out from the anchorage and remained by her, cleared for action, until Captain Macfarlane's anchor was let go about half-past five.

No signal had been given to prevent the Hsiping leaving until after the shots had been fired, and the vessel was well on her way back to her anchorage.

At 9 p.m. the Hsiping received orders from a torpedo boat to put out all lights, and this was done. About 11.30 heavy firing was heard from the shore batteries and also from a small war vessel cruising about, and about midnight the Hsiping was hailed by a rowboat and ordered to put out her fires, which was also done.

Next morning at 6 a.m. Captain Macfarlane hoisted a signal "When I proceed to sea?" Two hours later the harbour launch came off and ordered the ship to go to Dalny without giving any reason. In company with the sister steamer Chingping, the German steamer Pronto, and a Russian merchant steamer, the Hsiping proceeded to Dalny, still flying the same signal. They arrived outside Dalny at a quarter past two and anchored inside about a quarter of an hour later. A harbour official came out and took the ship's papers ashore. At six o'clock a Russian sentry was sent on board and remained till the following evening, the ship remaining anchored meantime.

When the sentry was relieved at seven o'clock on the evening of the 12th, Captain Macfarlane sent by him a protest against the detention of his ship by *force majeure* to the Captain of the port representing the Russian Government. On the morning of the 13th at ten o'clock the Captain was visited by Mr. Waldemar Marc, assistant to the Dalny Port Commissioner, accompanied by Mr. Edward Soper, acting as interpreter. Mr. Marc stated that owing to the mines that had been placed in the harbour it was impossible for the Hsiping to leave. Captain Macfarlane represented to him that it was an impolitic proceeding to have sent four merchant steamers to a harbour that was mined. Mr. Marc replied that half an hour before the Hsiping's arrival, a Russian vessel which had been laying the mines had been blown up, with great loss of life, by one of her own mines; that there were only two men who knew the position of the mines; that these were the captain and officer of the vessel destroyed; and that they had been killed. Unless therefore there was a copy of the plan for mining at

Port Arthur, it was impossible to know where the mines were, and therefore the Hsiping could not be allowed to leave until the mines were relaid. Captain Macfarlane remarked that a small Russian vessel was cruising all this time at the entrance of the harbour, and was told in reply that that boat only drew six feet of water.

Captain Macfarlane then complained of the risk to which he and his vessel had been exposed in being sent to enter Dalny without a pilot, and was told that it was believed the vessel which had been accidentally blown up would otherwise have piloted them in. He also pointed out that the ship ran the risk of being destroyed or captured should the Japanese attack Dalny, and Mr. Soper admitted there would be such a danger. On requesting to be allowed to take his ship further in, Captain Macfarlane was told that might be permitted. He represented further that no inquiries had been made or reason given for the detention of the ship at Port Arthur or for her being sent to Dalny; also that he had been exposed to heavy firing from the batteries at Port Arthur on the night of the 10th February. Capt. Macfarlane also told the interpreter that he was not aware of any reason for his ship's arrest, as when he left Chinwangtao there was no news of war and Russian steamers loading coal there had Japanese firemen on board. He (the Captain) wished to communicate with his consul or with his owners by telegraph. This, he was told, might be allowed, as permission was given to respectable Europeans to go ashore; the cost of supplies to the ship would also be allowed by the Russians. One reason alleged why the ship should not be allowed to leave Dalny by the way it came was that the Japanese would then learn the passage, but Captain Macfarlane pointed out that had the ship been ordered away from Port Arthur at once and not detained at Dalny, it would have been impossible for the Japanese or anyone else to have seen anything. It was, therefore, due to the mistake at Port Arthur and to the failure of the authorities there to make any enquiries, that the Hsiping was detained and those on board allowed to see and hear what they had.

The Austrian Consul at Hongkong (Mr. Post) was a passenger on the Hsiping and was present during this interview. He also sent in a protest by the same messenger as Captain Macfarlane, who is very warm in his gratitude to Mr. Post for his assistance and support throughout, and his services as an interpreter. Mr. Soper said several times during the interview that the detention of the Hsiping was due to a mistake.

The Hsiping was allowed to leave on Tuesday and came direct to Shanghai where she arrived yesterday morning. She is not seriously damaged, but it is not quite certain that she was not actually touched by a fragment of one of the shells thrown at her. The German steamer Pronto was said to have suffered more severely from the firing. It appears that the torpedo transport Yenisei lost 98 men, 192 being saved.

THE AKITSUSHIMA ARRIVES. AND INQUIRES FOR THE MANDJOUR.

20th February.

The arrival yesterday of the armoured cruiser Akitsushima at Woosung was first made known to the Japanese Consulate by the tiffin-time express issued by the "North-China Daily News." It was not until comparatively late in the afternoon that official intimation of her arrival was received at the Consulate.

In the meantime a "News" man called to inquire if this arrival were in any way connected with the presence in port of the Russian gunvessel Mandjour. Mr. Odagiri, one of the busiest of men in Shanghai just now, was out, but Mr. Yoshidawa, the consul's courteous assistant, was in. He was discreet as well as polite, and had no statement to make as to whether there were any question of cause and effect in the presence of the two belligerent craft.

"It is quite certain," he said, "that our cruiser will do nothing in the river."

With regard to the continued stay of the Russian gunboat there have been various rumours, many of them foolish, and some arguments more or less curious. In the French settlement it is seriously suggested that the river is an international river, and that no Power may object to the Mandjour remaining. Whether the argument would continue to hold favour if the Akitsushima came up and stayed in uncomfortable juxtaposition is doubtful. That the Japanese opinion of the Russian's right to remain is decidedly adverse thereto, is clear. Mr. Yoshidawa admitted that "steps" were being taken to have her ordered out of this neutral port, but was not authorised to accord definite information on the point.

The Akitsushima is a big, protected cruiser drawing nearly eighteen feet of water, mean draught, and with a displacement of 3,150 tons. She carries 500 tons of coal in her bunkers. Her engines, triple expansion, were home-made at Yokosuka. She has four six-inch quick-firers and six four-point-sevens, besides ten three-pounder rapid firers, four torpedo tubes, and half-a-dozen machine guns. She has been twelve years afloat.

WAR NOTES AND NEWS.

10th February.

Several vessels arrived from the north yesterday and some of them had interesting items of news. The experiences of the C. E. and M. S. Hsiping and her sister ship the Chingping are described at length in another column. It is, however, needful to note that no fewer than four British steamers have now been fired upon by the Russians, and in the case of the three belonging to the Chinese Engineering and Mining Company there seems to have been absolutely no reason why they should have been subjected to the peril even of such erratic shooting as the Russian gunners seem able to make. In the case of the boats referred to by Captain Macfarlane, a further danger was incurred when they were sent to Dalny and obediently entered a harbour newly mined, without so much as a pilot. One of the vessels was a German and one a Russian coaster, but this does not excuse what at the best was a serious blunder and at the worst might have meant a terrible catastrophe.

Another version of the Fuping affair put forward by one who was at Port Arthur at the time is that the guardship mistook the Fuping for the Wenchow, which, as will seen by another note, was not permitted to leave till later. The Russians, however, have not officially claimed this as an excuse. Our informant adds that he saw a Russian cruiser bring in one Japanese torpedo-boat and sink another after the bombardment of the 9th.

The steamer whose crew mutinied at Port Arthur was the Foxton Hall, and it was her fourth engineer whose arm was shot off by a splinter of shell. The Columbia, which ran the gauntlet from Port Arthur as described yesterday, was not actually in the harbour,

but within the fire zone, when she determined to make her attempt at escape. Among the passengers on board was Mr. Francis McCullagh, the newspaper correspondent.

The French cruiser Pascal arrived at Woosung on Wednesday night, bringing Russians wounded at the Chemulpo engagement, among them, it is understood, the Captains of both the Coreetz and Varyag. She will probably take them on to Saigon.

All yesterday the Russian gunboat Mandjour remained at her buoy in the river, but with steam up and attached only by a slip cable from which she could be released at short notice. A Japanese river steamer came up the river during the morning and carefully saluted every ship on the station till she reached the Mandjour, which would no doubt have liked to offer greetings of another kind had the meeting been anywhere but on the Shanghai Bund.

Capt. Gundersen, of the Norwegian steamer Bygdo, who was sentenced to four days' imprisonment at Port Arthur for giving information to a Japanese, was speedily released and arrived in Shanghai on Tuesday. He was simply speaking to a Japanese in the train between Dalny and Port Arthur when he was arrested. His ship came here under charge of the first officer and Captain Gundersen followed as a passenger in the El Dorado.

The captain of the German steamer Amoy was also ashore with his wife at Port Arthur when his vessel was ordered out and left under charge of the first officer.

Among the other arrivals yesterday was the Norwegian steamer Ariel from Port Arthur and Chefoo. She remained at Woosung overnight.

The Japanese refugees from Port Arthur who have arrived at Chefoo by the British steamer Wenchow tell a pitiful story of their hardships and sufferings which were quite unnecessarily inflicted on them. The details are contained in an official telegram received at the Japanese Consulate yesterday and communicated to us:—

"On the 6th instant, Japanese were forbidden to embark on the British steamer Ras Bera and at midnight by the order of Viceroy Alexieff they were forbidden to go out of the port. On the 9th all the Japanese passengers on board the British steamer Wenchow were prevented from going ashore but were kept under watch by eight Russian soldiers. The Wenchow was detained continuously. The Japanese numbering more than 200 were at the point of starvation. After earnest entreaty to Viceroy Alexieff on the night of the 10th ten bales of rice and half a dozen tins of biscuit were given them. On the 11th the signal for the lack of drinking water was made but no answer received; on the 13th the request for the supply of nourishment to babies and women at least was sent in. On that day 103 Japanese arrived from Harbin. They were robbed of all their money and possessions on their way to Port Arthur. At this time the number of Japanese on board the Wenchow was over 300 and their distress was too great to be imagined. On the afternoon of the 14th the steamer was allowed to leave the port. On the morning of the 15th the steamer arrived at Chefoo. In Port Arthur disorder was to be seen in every corner. The banditti and Russian soldiers were enjoying themselves with plundering. Russian firms were prepared for the attack of the soldiers and banditti, the inmates being armed.

A telegram was received in Shanghai yesterday definitely stating that Bishop Moore is safe in Corea. The fears that were expressed when the first news arrived of the sinking of the C. E. R. S. Sangari on which the Bishop travelled are thus definitely set at rest.

A Russian official statement in regard to the bombardment at Port Arthur has been published in the Tientsin papers and is worth reproducing: "The bombardment of Port Arthur commenced on Monday night. Considerable damage has been done to the town, but there are not many casualties. Two Russian battleships, and one cruiser disabled by torpedoes. Five Japanese torpedo boats got close in to the Russian fleet and discharged torpedoes, three taking effect as above. Many of the Russian destroyers in the harbour were not ready for action. Japan lost one battleship, one small one sunk. The Japanese fleet withdrew at noon on Tuesday moving south-west. Troops from the neighbouring barracks are pouring into the town to take up the defensive in the event of Japanese landing. The local police have kept splendid order. All non-combatants are ordered away."

It is stated that Hakodate has been reduced to ashes, being bombarded by five Russian cruisers.

The last statement may be matched by that of a Japanese contemporary which has announced the capture of the Mandjour.

Young as the war yet is, it has already demonstrated the value of the torpedo boat and torpedo boat destroyer in the hands of capable and daring seamen. Small, speedy, insignificant, they are playing havoc with the monster battleships and cruisers, and getting away with the least possible damage to themselves. It will be strange if we do not hear of considerable building of torpedo boats for the British navy in the near future.

20th February.

Apart from the arrival of the Japanese cruiser Akitsushima, which is now anchored at Woosung between the outer and inner bars, Shanghai was untroubled yesterday with war alarms. The coming of the Japanese vessel will possibly hasten a solution of the vexed question of Shanghai's position as a neutral port. It was generally expected last night that the Mandjour would disappear from the Bund during the darkness.

It is very evident that the Russian gunboat Mandjour has been well watched by the Japanese. On Thursday Captain Crown went down to Woosung to see how the land lay and yesterday he was trying to arrange for a pilot to take the Mandjour out. This probably accounts for the presence of the Akitsushima at Woosung.

The Akitsushima came from Saseho. As she anchored off the Customs Station a Chinese gun-boat approached her, and onlookers surmised that she was to be ordered out. Nothing further happened, however, than mutual salutes. The Akitsushima sent a boat ashore with an officer.

The steamers of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha and Osaka Shosen Kaisha have not called at Shanghai since hostilities broke out, but it is now definitely stated that both companies will resume the service as soon as the Mandjour disarms, leaves, or is taken out. Until that happens the vessels will not come beyond Nagasaki. The resumption of the service would be a great convenience just now as there are many Japanese more especially in Hong-kew, who would make use of the boats to return to Japan.

The French cruiser Pascal left Woosung yesterday for Saigon, having on board the rescued crews of the Varyag and Coreetz, who are to remain at Saigon on parole.

M. Pavloff, Russian Minister to Korea, arrived here by the French cruiser Pascal. Madame Pavloff was staying at the Astor House Hotel on Wednesday evening and

since then, but M. Pavloff only took up quarters there yesterday.

Baron Rosen and suite continued their journey on the M.M.S. Yarra yesterday morning. In an interview with our French contemporary the Baron stated that almost at the moment when the night attack was being made on Port Arthur, Baron Komura was assuring Baron Rosen that it was "not war yet." All the same he was courteously informing him that diplomatic relations had been ruptured, which is much the same thing.

The M. M. S. Yarra also took on the Russian sailors whom it had brought from Japan. The story that they had gone on board the Mandjour, breaking their parole incidentally, was, of course—a story.

Telegraphic and cable communications are, now that the early difficulties have been overcome, quite excellent. It is announced that the Korean lines have been restored with the exception of that to North Yuensan. In the meantime the Port Arthur-Chefoo line, already closed to all but Government messages, has now been interrupted altogether.

The "Echo de Chine" was out yesterday with its customary contradiction of the official news issued the previous day by the Japanese Consulate, this time in regard to the attack on Port Arthur by two torpedo boat destroyers on the 13th inst. The denial is made on the strength of a telegram received by General Dessino, the Russian military attaché here, and dated Port Arthur 16th February. 6 p.m. The telegram reads: "After the unexpected attack made by the Japanese fleet before the declaration of war, on the night between the 8th and 9th inst., and in the course of which three Russian warships were damaged, the Japanese tried another sudden attack on Port Arthur from the sea. But the Japanese squadron, after an hour's fighting was forced to retire with loss, since absolutely nothing has happened." In this connection our telegram of this morning showing the losses admitted by Admiral Alexieff is interesting. The "Echo de Chine" adds "The rumour of the landing of the Japanese at Chinwangtao or at Yukou has not been confirmed."

Further details in connection with the run under fire of the I.-C.S. Columbia from Port Arthur have come to hand in the report of Captain Richard Anderson to Messrs. Jardine, Matheson, the agents here. The boat was in the port on the night of the 8th when the three large warships were torpedoed. She saw them and the transport lying in the morning off the entrance to the harbour in the situation already described in earlier reports. They grounded about 1.15 a.m., while trying to make the harbour. At 5.30 on the morning of the 9th a naval officer boarded the Columbia and told Captain Anderson that he was not to move from his anchorage until he received orders from the Viceroy. Later the Captain hoisted signals to know if he could proceed to sea, but received no reply. At 10.15 the port medical officer arrived and told the Captain he could haul down his quarantine flag, but did not order the removal of the guard which had been placed on board. Asked if the ship might leave, the medical officer said he could not give permission without seeing the Admiral. Shortly afterwards a naval lieutenant came on board and ordered the Columbia to shift her anchorage as her berth was required for a man-of-war. The Columbia saw the C.E.R.S. Novik come into the harbour from Chefoo with

cattle on board and soon afterwards the C.E.R.S. Ninguta came in. While altering her anchorage the Columbia blew her steam whistle to draw the attention of the Medical Officer in order that he might come and remove the guard, but no heed was given. About ten minutes after taking up her fresh anchorage Captain Anderson saw the fleet of sixteen Japanese vessels approaching in a circular formation from the East. When they were from three to four miles away they started bombarding. This decided Captain Anderson to run the risk of leaving without permission and with his guard still on board. He hove up his anchor under heavy fire, shells dropping all round the ship. Taking the boat as far in shore as possible Captain Anderson gave orders for full speed ahead and arrived safely in Chefoo at 6.15 p.m. He writes in warm praise of the coolness of the native crew whose steadiness assisted very greatly in preventing panic among the many Chinese passengers. The foreigners of the deck and engine room staff also behaved exceedingly well under trying circumstances. Happily though the deck was covered with fragments of shells none actually struck the ship and there was no casualty or damage of any sort.

22nd February.

The "Ostasiatische Lloyd" circulates the following:—

We have just received advices from Chemulpo dated to the 15th inst.

Two large Japanese transports, Sanuki Maru and Hakata Maru, arrived there on the 13th; on the 14th large quantities of war materials were landed by 400 coolies brought by the transports. Everything was done with the best of discipline. All preparations up to the minutest detail for a march into the interior have been made.

The Japanese are constructing jetties of materials brought for the purpose from Japan.

Absolute order and quiet are prevailing in Chemulpo, the Japanese soldiers behaving in an exemplary manner. By 8 p.m. nightly the streets are deserted.

During the engagement of the 9th the Japanese certainly lost one torpedo-boat, and it is believed they probably lost two vessels.

The Korean fishermen report that on the 10th the Japanese removed the funnels and masts from a wreck, apparently to remove all traces of their losses.

23rd February.

As we have already stated, the time allowed for the Russian gunvessel Mandjour to leave the harbour expired at 5 p.m. on Sunday, but as far as can be seen, that vessel has taken no notice of the order given her, a course of action which she would not be permitted to follow in, for instance, Hongkong or Tsingtao. The Chinese authorities are naturally puzzled how to act; the Taotai has been instructed from Peking to enforce the neutrality rules for which there is international sanction, but there seems some reason to fear that the Mandjour's action is deliberately designed so to involve China that Russia may be able to refuse to respect her neutrality, as Japan has refused to respect the neutrality of Corea. China has been so strenuously advised by the Great Powers to remain neutral, with the willing assent of Japan, that it is not to be wondered at that she should hesitate to adopt severe measures in the present case; but the Powers that have undertaken her

tutelage will no doubt advise her what measures to take in the present difficulty. The simplest thing, if it is thought inexpedient that Admiral Sah should tow the Mandjour out to sea, would be to remove some vital portion of her machinery, and so disable her as long as she remains outlaid in the port. It remains to be seen what steps will now be taken to enforce the order which was formally given by the Taotai on Saturday.

The Japanese cruiser Akitsushima left Woosung yesterday, and as far as she is concerned, therefore, the neutrality of Shanghai has been strictly observed.

A private letter dated the 19th inst. from Weihaiwei, the writer of which had arrived the previous day from Shanghai, says:—

"I saw no signs of any Japanese warship, so Captain Crown would have done well to have slipped away. I hear Port Arthur is full of men-of-war which are aground at low water. A Chinese rumour here says that two Japanese torpedo-boats got in on 13th-14th, and torpedoed some more of them, in a snowstorm, but I don't know what truth there is in it."

The command of the First Japanese Army in Corea has been given to General Baron Kuroki.

Japanese papers to hand by the mail add some few details but not much of importance to what was already known here in regard to the fighting which has so far taken place. A Saseho message received by the "Jiji," dated the 11th inst., reports that the Russian whaler Alexander was captured by two Japanese torpedo-boats off Tsushima island on the morning of the 10th inst., and was brought to Saseho at 4 p.m. the same day. She was fully laden with blubber. The message further says that four Russian ships were also captured near Tsushima island on the 10th and taken to Saseho the following day. The Jiji, however, has been getting some curious news lately, e.g. that "a conflagration occurred in the native quarters at Shanghai and destroyed many buildings including the Russian Consulate."

The man arrested on suspicion of being a Russian spy, to whom reference has already been made in this column, has been committed for trial: A Tokio paper states that the accused has been obtaining from Mr. Sei Hasegawa, a draughtsman belonging to the Yokosuka Naval Station, various reports and plans regarding that naval station, and that the reports relating to the Maizuru Naval Station were secured from Mr. Kyufu Seno, an expert belonging to that station. It is further stated by the paper that Messrs. Hasegawa and Seno had purposely supplied the criminal with false reports only.

Items from the English papers are that the first Secretary of the French Legation took charge of Russia's interests on the 14th inst and moved into the Russian Legation.—Acting on behalf of British residents in Chemulpo, Mr. Turner offered the use of the British hospital there, which is unoccupied at present, for the accommodation both of Japanese and Russian wounded.—Mr. Motono, Japanese Minister at Paris, learns on good authority that Russia intends to float there a loan of 1,000 million francs, which will bear interest at the rate of 5 per cent per annum and will be issued at the price of 92 francs. The date of the issue is not yet fixed. The Rothschilds, it is rumoured, will probably lend 200 million francs to Russia.

The native and foreign Press of Japan is, as was only to be expected, righteously indignant concerning the sinking of the Nagonoura Maru by the four Russian

warships in the Tsugarn Strait. The captain of the Zensho Maru, which escaped, states positively that no warning to stop or opportunity of surrender was given to these harmless little coasters before they were fired on. The Nagonoura Maru went down and it was supposed at first that all on board perished. We now learn, however, that all except two were picked up by the Russians and taken prisoners but subsequently released.

War stories, true and imaginary, says the "Japan Times," are gradually beginning to attract the attention of the public. The "Kokumin" has one which sounds like an extract from some novel, but it is said to be true. In Chikuzen province, Kiushu, there is a shrine known as the Hakozaki Hachimangu, dedicated to the well-known warrior Hachimantaro Yoshiie, who flourished in the brave days of old. On the morning of the 5th inst., when prayers for a Japanese victory over the Russians were being conducted by the priests, upwards of 700 doves belonging to the shrine, dividing themselves into companies of 20 or 30 were seen bathing in turn in the tearai-backi, a big jar containing water, standing in the precincts. About 7 o'clock in the evening, a tremendous noise was suddenly heard over the roof of the shrine, and in a moment hundreds of doves, after hovering for a moment in the air, started in the direction of the north-west, and have not yet returned. When the morning dawned, it was found that only 50 or 60 of them were left behind as a sort of reserve, all the rest having set out on what the people call a "punitive expedition" in the direction indicated. The people of that place believe that this singular conduct of the birds is a good omen in the struggle with the Northern Power, on the strength of a similar phenomenon having been witnessed at the beginning of the late Japan-China war.

WAR LIES.

22nd February.

It is a temptation to publish parallel with "War News" a column of "War Lies," so numerous and so amusing are the "Bunders" that continue to grow, amoeba-like, apparently from nothing in particular. The simile is better even than its prima facie appearance seemed to promise, since the amoeba is a protozoön which perpetually changes its form—an animated mass of perfectly transparent moving matter. One of the perfectly transparent items in circulation just now is a Chefoo story, which has just effloresced in the "Bangkok Times" and was last heard of in the "Singapore Free Press" as a "special." It states that the Russian steamer "Argun," from Nagasaki to Dalny, was fired on with blank ammunition by seven Japanese battleships, who then steamed three times round her, and disappeared.

There is a striking similarity of terms here used to describe their movements to the familiar phrases employed in recording the behaviour of the periodical sea-serpent. At that time (28th January) Japan was supposed by the Bangkok paper to be adopting Russian tactics to force war. An editorial comment which we observed in another paper suggested that this was a naval practical joke, to show the Russians the contempt in which they were held by the gallant champions of bushido.

Another perfectly transparent item is flitting up and down the Shanghai Bund, whispering that Admiral Alexieff has in

his entourage a confidential Japanese body-servant who is sending home all the Russian plans. It was in that way that the Japanese learned the signal code which enabled them to get into Port Arthur harbour and do so much damage!

The poor gunboat Mandjour is still suffering a continuous bombardment of Bunderes. One of the latest is that Captain Crown has offered Tls. 60,000 for a pilot who will take his little craft out to sea. So soon as they get into deep water, or soon as the Japanese cruiser is sighted, the pilot will be allowed to get off and paddle home. To make his safety surer still, the Japanese are to be requested not to fire until the pilot is well clear of the ship. And not a single pilot will volunteer!

CONTRABAND OF WAR.

A Japanese Declaration.

The "Japan Times" prints the following "Instruction No. 1 of the Department of State for the Navy":—

It is hereby decided that the under-mentioned goods shall be regarded as contraband during the present war between Japan and Russia:

1.—The following goods shall be treated as contraband of war in case they are going to pass through the enemy's territory or in case they are destined for the enemy's territory or his army or navy:

Arms, ammunition, explosives and the raw materials thereof (including lead, saltpetre, sulphur, etc.), and apparatus for manufacturing them, cement, uniforms and equipment of military and naval men, armour plates, materials for the construction and equipment of men-of-war and other ships, and all other goods to be used solely for purposes of war.

2.—The following goods shall be treated as contraband of war in case they are destined for the enemy's army or navy, or in case, from the nature of the locality in the enemy's territory to which they are bound, they may be considered to be intended for the use of the enemy's army or navy:

Provisions, drinks, horses, harness, fodder, vehicles, coal, timber, money, gold and silver bullion, and materials for the construction of telegraphs, telephones, and railways.

3.—Of the goods mentioned in the foregoing two clauses, those which on account of their quality or quantity may be judged to be evidently intended for the use of the ship that carries them shall not be treated as contraband.

Baron GOMBEI YAMAMOTO,
Minister of State for
the Navy.

Dated the 10th day of the 2nd month
of the 37th year of Meiji (1904).

SHANGHAI DOOLEY'S DIARY OF THE WAR.

Ye see, Hinessey, the beginning of ut was like this. Thot Jap monkey pulls the teeth out of the Chinese dragon, an' sits down on ut's tail (the dragon's tail—not ut's own alone, I mane) to rest. The Russian bear, he growls, an' says he, step back aff the map of Asia, he says. The monkey fr'm th' islands made faces, but whin he seen th' other animals of th'

International circus looking green an' jealous, he bows an' says, says he, "With all the pleasure in the wurld," he says.

"That was the evacyation iv Port Arthur, yemane?" queried Mr. Hinessey, as he inverted his tumbler to show there was nothing in it. "Whin was it tuk place?"

"I misremimber," said the oracle, "but ye know how the bear sauntered in and dropped down on the same spot, just for a rest. Whin the Chimpanzee ray-monstrated, the Bear said ut was just after having forty winks. I believe there was more winks than that meself, whin he said ut. Time rolled on, and Colonel Lynch was still picking oakum, when the monkey looked over into the place where the bear was establishing the blessings of Home Rule, and railways, and vodka, and Free Trade for Russia, and suggested that it was time he quit. I'm just going, said the bear. The second of August 'll see me gone, he says. More time rolled on, as is its usual habit, and the cinematograph wasn't over on the two-th. The bear he lay low an' said nothen. He's good at lying—low or otherwise. The monkey stepped round and raised a cackle in th' International poultry-yard, an' the upshot of ut was that the bear said he guessed he must be going. I expect to move, he says, all bein' well, an' weather permittin', on the eighth iv October, he says. An' whin th' office boy at Peking tore off the number 8 paper fr'm the block on the kitchen wall, the bear was stretchin' himself fer another nap. Japan looked over her cards an' considered whether to go Wellington, an' one of thim low, yumerous paypers said there was trouble bruin. All the respectable wans said, very properly, it was nonsense. But as ye moind, Hinessey, things went on, and long befure the season of peace and good pudden to men was all paid for, the Russia-Japan war had started—on payper. First wan payper said war was possible, an' another, not to be outdone, said ut was probable, an' th' respectable organs said the Czar was a Doweyite, and wouldn't allow ut. It would be arbitrated, they said, only there was nothen to arbitrate on, and anyway, th' arbitraitors was busy wid th' Klondyke bound'ry at th' time. Thin the smart, interprisin' paypers said war was imminent, and might be postponed on account of clashin' the date, they said, but not averted. It was excitin' while it lasted, but it ended in a draw. Manewhile, Japan was figuring out how many days it was since she had last heard fr'm Russia. She dropped a postcard to the Minister in St. Petersburg, and he sent a picture postcard back to show that the Czar's missus had th' ear-ache, an' that they were out of stamps at th' post-offus, and no more at present from yours truly. This was polite but not soothin'. So the Marquis Hightoe Marconigraphed that unless he got th' money by return av post, he would advise his honourable Imperor, he said, to lay in coal for the winter, he said, an' if no wurrd came inside the nixt decade, he said, in a P.S. he would likewise wire fer a million cans of beef and compressed American sympathy. This waked up Admiral Alec, and he says, says he: Am engaged on reply, but await me Secretary, who can't find the dictionary, he says, to see how many 'gees' there is, he says, in 'integrity,' says he. But I don't think we will quit, he says, not thinkin' much of your navy. The Japs, just gettin' over th' excitement of th, elections, was mad, an' they begged the Mickyado to pat Russia in th' slats. Paste th' lyin' baste, they says, but th'

Imperor, seein' they was full of rice, changed their Diet, an' waited 23 days. On th' seventh av this month, Japan had a notice posted in th' Club, that they couldn't wait any longer, as the Reviews was over, an' the Samurais was eatin their heads off an' frothing on th' curb. Russia didn't give any back talk, but roped in a few million wild Cossacks in order to complete the evacyation in Manchuria. They evacuated a few Chinese out of Moukden before that. On the eight iv February, instant, there was gay doings at Port Arthur. Admiral Alexyeff, and his brother, Viceroy Alexyeff, and all the Russian naval officers went ashore to see the play at the theatre. It was "Quo Vadis?" and between th' acts Alexyeff told Mrs. A. that he had to go outside and see a man about a torpedo. They were just signin' chits fer the second vodka whin the Admiral's brother says, "What's that?" he says. "It's like th' sound iv guns," he says. "It'll be the thunder iv applause," he says, "thot ye hear. Me officers is terrible fond," he says, "of the Prime Donah," he says. So they had another wan. In th' Greenwich meantime, Hinessey, which is a nautical term, th' Japs had crept up into th' bay, an' havin' farned the Russian codes, surrounded the Russian fleet an' destroyed it in-toirely. Next day the Russians wrote to th' paypers sayin' that the Japs was cowards, an' hit when they wasn't lookin', an' thot anyway it didn't hurt much. More by token, they had gone out an' sunk a timber raft on the Yalu River that had a Japanese poodle on board, an' were quits. Some iv th' paypers say 'twas a glorious vict'ry, an' some only a moral wan, but we will know maybe after the Chinese New Year. Th' man in St. Petersburg writes, I see, to the "North-China Daily News," thot whin the Japs opened wid the left, in that way, they tuk the whole responsibility, he says, which can arise, says he, fr'm th' rupture in diplomatic relations, he says.

"D'ye think that's right?" asked Mr. Hinessey.

"They tuk more than thot, Hinessey," said the oracle, solemnly. "Th' beggars tuk the ships, an' they'll take a lot of beating."

ATTEMPTED BURGLARY AT SHANGHAI.

There was an attempted burglary on Sunday night. About midnight, Mr Sennet, of the firm of Sennet Frères, jewellers and art dealers, Nanking Road, was awakened by a suspicious noise. He dressed hastily and came down. There is a covered alley or courtyard on the right at the shop, and at the end of this is the private doorway to Mr. Sennet's premises. The ground-floor windows are, as to lower sill, about five feet from the ground. They are fronted by strong iron bars to a height of another four feet, above which is a semi-circular fanlight without such protection. Coming out of the door already spoken of, into the dark courtyard, Mr. Sennet found that a man was upon the window nearest the road. The fellow jumped down and made off. Mr. Sennet gave chase, and managed to lay hands on the man, but he broke away and escaped after dragging his captor as far as the corner of Kiangse Road. He was a big man, wearing an astrakhan cap, and Mr. Sennet states that he was a Russian. Two men were observed standing at the corner

of the block, presumably accomplices, as they, too, made off when approached. The big man who was on the window, had already removed the glass of the fan-light, but would have required a smaller accomplice to get through the aperture so made. When Mr. Sennet returned from the pursuit, a lantern was found on the window-sill, and beneath it, on the ground, two sacks and a quantity of tools. There was no policeman, native or foreign, to be seen in the neighbourhood, and although Mr. Sennet shouted his loudest he could not get anyone to hear or to come to his assistance.

JAPAN SYMPATHETIC FUND.

There are many foreigners in China who sympathise with the Japanese in the present war. It is proposed that this sympathy should take a practical form in the shape of a fund for the support of the families of Japanese reservists, and the widows and orphans of those killed or incapacitated in the war.

We shall be very glad to receive, acknowledge, and forward any sums that may be sent to us for this purpose.

"NORTH-CHINA HERALD," Shanghai.

	\$
W. J. G.	100
A Friend	100
H. K.	75
D. S. S. & Co.	50
E. D. S. & Co.	50
A. M. M.	25
A. McL.	25
D. M. G.	15
A. S.	10
D. S. S.	5
A. E. A.	5
T. S. K.	1
F. S.	25
Another Friend	25
C. W. W.	25
H. T. T.	25
H. R. K.	25
J. O.	10
R. McG.	50
C. D.	50

Total to date...\$696

FISCALITIS IN SHANGHAI.

The attempt that has been made to take a plebiscite in Shanghai on the fiscal question, in imitation of that taken in Hongkong, was the failure that most people expected it to be. Voting began on the 10th instant, and the boxes were opened on Saturday afternoon. The result is:—

For fiscal reform	156
Against	11
Majority in favour of reform ...	145

There might be some reason for taking a vote like this in a British Colony like Hongkong; but there was, as the result shows, no reason for taking it in an International Settlement.

CALENDARS, ETC., RECEIVED.

From Messrs. Birchall & Co., the agents, a very effective hanging calendar issued by the Stenotyper Shorthand Machine, with a photograph of a young lady operating a stenotyper on her lap.

BOOKS, ETC., RECEIVED.

Rosenstock's Business Directory of the City of Manila. Vol. II, No. 2. A paper-covered volume of 209 pages, 8vo., "containing a full and complete alphabetical and classified list of Bankers, Merchants, Professional and Trades men, etc., together with a Street Directory of Manila, and a complete Official Directory of Government Offices, Postal Information, Provincial and City Government, Clubs, Theatres, Churches, etc." Compiled by C. W. Rosenstock, and published monthly by the Bulletin Publishing Company. This clearly printed directory is invaluable to all having connections with, or anxious for information about, Manila. Its price is only thirty cents, U. S. currency.

The Imperial and Asiatic Quarterly Review. January, 1904. Published at the Oriental Institute, Woking. Of special interest to readers in China is an article by the indefatigable Mr. E. H. Parker, "Some New Facts about Marco Polo's Book."

The February issue of the *Pall Mall Magazine* is not very happy in the picture on its front cover, but the frontispiece, a tinted drawing by C. A. Shepperson, makes up for this. The heavier articles are all very readable. "Pictures and the Public" is an account, delightfully illustrated, of the Walker Art Gallery at Liverpool. The "Master Worker" this month is the great painter G. F. Watts, O.M., R.A., and there is an excellent portrait of him. "How and Why Animals are Coloured" is very entertaining and made more so by the appropriate drawings which accompany it. There is a good account with pictures of the Duke of Devonshire's Piccadilly house; and Thackeray, with portrait and photographs, is the current subject of the "Literary Geography" series. "Dr. Sven Hedin at Home" is another attractive biographical paper; "The Taming of Garden Birds" is another happy essay; and there is a popular scientific paper on Cancer; all these are well illustrated. There is also a good supply of fiction, including instalments of "The Queen's Quair" and "The Vineyard"; the list of contents including also several pieces of verse, "The Round Table," and three pages of political caricatures.

SUBMARINE MINES.

Sir George Clarke, who has been called home from the Governorship of Victoria to be one of the War Commission of three, which is to put the British Army to rights, is the author of the article on Submarine Mines in the "Encyclopædia Britannica." His opinion, drawn from the history of warfare in which the submarine mine has been employed, is that, except as a demoralising force, it has little value. Extravagant claims have been advanced, he says, for this form of defence; and he gives instances.

"In the Franco-German war the small Prussian navy was powerless. Kiel, Wilhelmshaven, and other ports were defended by mines which were not required, as the French fleet was effectually prevented, on other ground, from attacks on the Prussian littoral. The only effect of the mines was to impede the entry of German ships into their own ports, and thus to bring about several captures while the subsequent removal of the mine-fields led to a fatal accident."

And again "during the Spanish-American war mine-fields were laid in the approaches to New York, Philadelphia, and Boston. The result was an almost intolerable hindrance to traffic, which would have greatly facilitated the operations of a Spanish commerce destroyer, if such a vessel had been able to maintain herself off these ports."

"It may safely be assumed," says Sir George, "that hostile vessels will not enter cramped interior waters under effective fire, and the provision of a few guns in such cases is far more economical than an equipment of submarine mines. In any case the latter afford no protection against torpedo craft. As peculiar moral value has always been claimed for this form of defence, the mining of channels will generally be proclaimed, whether it has been carried out or not."

Submarine mines may be roughly divided into three classes: (1) Mechanical mines which once laid are uncontrollable, and are fired automatically if struck by any passing vessel. (2) Electrically-controlled mines, connected by cables with the shore, and capable of being rendered active when struck. (3) Observation mines laid on the ground or at depths greater than a ship's draught, and fired electrically from an observatory station when a hostile vessel is ascertained to be within their sphere of action.

The first class are so dangerous as to be inadmissible, except in cases where it is desired to close a channel alike to friend and foe.

The second necessarily constitutes an obstruction to waterways, and involves special pilotage arrangements and delay to maritime traffic. Moreover, no mine which contains its own means of ignition is entirely free from danger; and there is no evidence that such mines, even when nominally inactive, might not be fired if cut through by a ship's screw.

The third class is open to no objection on the ground of physical obstruction to waterways; but unless the identification of an enemy's vessels can be absolutely guaranteed, it evidently involves great danger; and in any case it breaks down altogether as a protection in thick weather.

HONGKONG TO-DAY.

ITS POSSIBILITIES IN THE FUTURE.

SPECIAL TO THE "NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

At this time when the eyes of the whole thinking world are directed to the Far East, and when the vision of the political seer looks on the Orient with solemn and all-absorbing interest, it may not be amiss to view the inner life of Britain's chief naval base, and see what steps are being taken to render her what she should be, not only as a stronghold in troublous times, but as a healthy centre of British Eastern trade and influence.

With the return of the summer a decade will have passed since the plague in all its horrors first attacked Hongkong. Right through the years that have followed its birth there have been two special commissioners who have been sent out to examine into the sanitary condition of the colony, and their special reports in the archives of Downing Street, are, in the words of the Poet Laureate, simply

New philosophies, policies new, new but like to the old,

Fervent in faith at the birth, then questioned, railed at, obsolete, cold.

It was at first thought that the prime factor in the dissemination of plague was rodent life, and the little creatures were purchased by the Government from the Chinese mudlarks who made the Harbour front their home; then it was stated that the people were too congested, and if something could be done to provide separate apartments or cubicles for each Chinese family, the evil would be met; now it is considered that "External air" is the sovereign remedy, and where light can penetrate into every compartment of a dwelling, plague germs cannot subsist. Travelling through Hongkong a few days ago I found every official from the Officer Administering the Government downwards, thoroughly alive to the importance of taking all the necessary steps conceivable to minimise evils which are necessarily consequent from protracted delays in dealing with epidemics. I found the senior and plague inspectors, more especially in the Western district, out soon after the break of day turning out the Chinese residents in sections, and compelling them to withdraw all their chattels into the street for thorough cleansing, while the houses themselves were being lime-washed and thoroughly disinfected. I took the trouble to investigate into the steps recently taken by the Sanitary Board to provide bathing accommodation for the lower class of Chinese, and inspected the baths and wash-houses at both East and West Points. I found the Chinese cheerfully undergoing their ablutions in tepid water and taking kindly to the efforts put forth for their personal cleanliness. I visited many of their dwellings in company with the district officers, and saw the house to house visitation carried out in every detail, and I am convinced that notwithstanding the shortcomings of the past the colony is being well cleansed to meet any possible recurrence of the plague during the coming season.

There is, however, one point in connection with the work of sanitation in Hongkong into which, unfortunately, considerable local feeling has been imported. The Public Health and Buildings Ordinance (No. 1 of 1903), which was the outcome of expert opinion as to what should be the proper form of a dwelling to meet the peculiar conditions prevailing in Hongkong, has been amended, and officials, as well as property owners, declare that the amendment has made the last condition of things worse than the first. In my conversation with property owners they declared that the Government was in a fog over the whole thing, and the officials responsible for carrying out the amended law declared it to be a farce, and that buildings erected hereafter would be simply hot-beds of plague and other diseases. Through the Government I was enabled to secure from Dr. Pearce, the Acting Medical Officer of Health, and from Mr. Carter, a sanitary expert employed in the colony, their views on the construction of a dwelling-house which would be rat-proof, and would provide external air from basement to

ummit, and fortified with these I went out principally during the night and early morn to see for myself the true conditions of things. While I found precautions were taken by rat-funnels to prevent the little ones getting ashore from the steamers, they were leaving their homes in the junks, and over the bows of the little craft were running ashore during the quietness of the night; and while the Government rat-catchers were spreading themselves out for slumber the rodents were creeping into the open houses, climbing up the stairs, and entering by the first means available the open spaces between ceilings and roofs. Entering into many of the larger dwellings in course of erection I was enabled to see many lower compartments intended for individual family life absolutely deprived of light, and others where external air could never reach. Thus, while both civil and official opinions differed as to the right form of dwelling to construct to cope with the inroads of plague germs upon the populace, whole blocks of buildings have been run up, and now condemned as being built contrary to law and sanitary science. This in itself is indeed unfortunate, for every step towards spreading out the colony both eastward and westward in view of the opening out of the electric traction in a few months, should not be missed.

The possibilities of the future of Hongkong are greater than of any other British possession East of Suez. With a clean bill of health she is a naval base of primary importance in the Dominions over the seas. The Admiralty Dock at Kowloon has during the last month repaired and recoated below the water-line over seventy-eight thousand tonnage of British men-of-war in eight days, and the coal supply to-day is sufficient to bunker the squadron seven times over without dislocating the ordinary mail and tramp steamship traffic.

A glance over the New Territories gives some idea of the possibilities of Kowloon in the future. There are over eight square miles of good pasture land upon which cattle rearing could be undertaken successfully as a private commercial enterprise, as well as a Government undertaking to meet any emergency such as a peremptory blockade of Hongkong. Vegetable products can be grown there and the cultivation extended to fruit, or green peas, and a preparation of the soil would provide good scope for tea plantations not an unknown quantity in the inland region towards Yunnanfu. I spoke to several Chinese commercial gentlemen whom I met inwards from Kowloon, and they assured me that they would readily launch out in large efforts at vegetable production if the Government would withdraw their restrictions upon the land, and give Crown leases at progressive rentals to admit of an almost immediate return for outlay and labour expended on tilling the soil. Dr. Gibson, the Colonial Veterinary Surgeon, advocated the importation of shorthorn bulls for stud purposes on the same lines now adopted by the Japanese farmers, but admitted that all the best of the imported cattle found its way to Manila, while the colony was left with two thousand head for local consumption with one hundred in reserve for the troops. When this is considered in conjunction with the fact that most of the food-stuffs are imported from Canton, it will be seen how desirable it is to cultivate the New Territory so as to make it of some use to the colony, instead of what it has been semi-officially described in some quarters, "a pure white elephant." Possibly when the British concessionaires build their contemplated line from Kow-

loon to Canton to connect with the Canton-Hankow system, something will be done to develop the New Territory, rich in verdure, and in a great part with mineral wealth. Whatever may be done, from all points of view the colony deserves considerable attention, and every step taken to enhance her future should receive the fullest encouragement and support.

C. V.

THE NISSHIN AND KASUGA.

STORIES OF A RARE PASSAGE.

The many speculations as to the flag under which the Nisshin and Kasuga came out East from Genoa have been disposed of by Lieut. Lea who commanded the former, and who tersely described himself to an interviewer of the "Straits Times" at Singapore as "a sort of licensed pirate." We quote from our contemporary:—

When Japan purchased the Nisshin and the Kasuga, the vessels were formally handed over to Messrs. Ansaldo and Armstrong, who in turn presented them to Lieut. Lea and Lieut. Poynter, the commanding officers of the two vessels, respectively.

"There is no doubt whatever" said Lieut. Lea, "that this vessel belongs to me, I might put her in pawn if I wished, but there is this drawback I couldn't do it on the quiet."

Questioned regarding the report that a bomb had exploded on board before the vessel left Genoa, Lieut. Lea laughed at the incident. "It was nothing at all, and would never have been heard of had it occurred on any other vessel. A steam pipe burst and an Italian engineer was scalded, with the result that he tried to create a panic on board."

An Italian engineer came up at this stage of the conversation. "I don't speak Italian," said the commander "and they don't speak English, so you can judge the picnic I've had." First the Italian got hold of another engineer and in funny English they interrogated the commanding officer as to what they should do. If they understood their orders it was more than the by-tander could bring himself to believe.

There was no uniform, of course, among them, and they seemed to think themselves a great deal better than their officers. A British naval officer would have been shocked on the spot had he visited the Nisshin.

Regarding the Russian squadron, Lieut. Lea remarked that he supposed there were some Russians again, but as they had to go to Sabang for coal he was quite convinced that the Nisshin could show the heels to anything that came along. "We are supposed to do 16 knots" he said "but so far we have only been making 14½." Of course, we have to thank the engineers for that.

"What would you do supposing a Russian cruiser called upon you to halt?"

"Why I would just surrender. I have no crew to defend a ship. Look at the guns, besides. The guns on the upper deck are all right, but those below are coated with rust—they would be perfectly useless."

A little difficulty which occurred at Genoa was related with great gusto by the commander. It came out quite accidentally while he was telling how he was pretty well on the way to being a millionaire, seeing that £800,000 worth of property had been given to him as a free gift—for a time! It appears that the Health authorities at Genoa gave the Nisshin a clean bill and the vessel prepared to leave on the 9th of January. Just as she was about to start the Italians began to get nervous. Were they not com-

mitting an unfriendly act against Russia by allowing the Nisshin and the Kasuga to leave for Japan? That was the question, and apparently overcome by their fears they went to Lieut. Lea for the bill of health, asking it to be returned.

"But it was lost," said the Lieutenant with a chuckle; "it was officially lost of course and I don't know if it has yet been found. So of course we were allowed—you can put it that way if you like—at any rate we sailed, and here we are."

How did the Nisshin compare with a British cruiser of the same class?

Lieut. Lea replied that the armament was infinitely superior. And as a fact the vessel simply bristled with guns. Every opening seemed to show a cannon. The commander spoke about 4.7 guns, 6 inch guns, torpedoes, and similar instruments of warfare, and repeated that as a fighting machine, with a good crew on board, there was nothing to beat the ship.

Amid sheets of rain the Japanese cruiser Kasuga subsequently arrived at Singapore and anchored in the Roads. The Kasuga showed few of the signs of hard weather that characterised the sister ship. The guns were not coated with rust; certainly the vessel was not spick and span after the fashion of the ordinary warship, but it had a ready and business-like aspect that was quite satisfactory.

No sign of the Russians had been seen, and when the question was asked: "What will you do if you're 'bailed up' by a Russian cruiser?" the officers sniffed and observed: "I guess we'd see if the guns were in working order. We have some ammunition on board, and some of the crew have been daily set to clean the guns, so that although we have not any gun-crews proper we might be able to give some account of ourselves."

It was stated that there were five Japanese officers on board, nominally regarded as passengers. One is a captain, another a commander, a third a lieutenant and there are also a doctor and a petty officer.

The Japanese commander, who protested that he spoke hardly a word of English, stated that he joined the ship at Genoa. He had no official standing on the vessel and could only be induced to say that the voyage had been rather a pleasant one.

The following is the agreement which the British sailors signed in London:—"The undersigned agree to serve under the conditions stated against their respective names on board the ship—now at Genoa until 24 hours after arrival at Yokohama, or any intermediate port if discharged by the captain. The ship will sail under the Japanese or such other flag as may be decided upon. She will be commanded by a British captain. Two months' wages are guaranteed. They will be paid to each man from the time he is directed to leave the place of original engagement. All expenses due to authorised travelling to Genoa, including subsistence, will be paid. When discharged each man will be provided with a free passage of the class and to the place stated against his name, available only for the route and date named by the captain. He will be entitled to draw his pay until he is due at the place by continuous travelling. In the event of the country under whose flag the ship is sailing going to war, the captain is instructed to discontinue the voyage and discharge the crew on the first opportunity."

CLARKE'S WORLD-FAMED BLOOD MIXTURE.—"The most searching Blood Cleanser that science and medical skill have brought to light." Sufferers from Scrofula, Scurvy, Eczema, Bad Legs, Skin and Blood Diseases, Pimples, and Sores of any kind are solicited to give it a trial to test its value. Thousands of wonderful cures have been effected by it. Sold everywhere at 2s. 9d. per bottle. Beware of worthless imitations and substitutes.

THE ANGLO-JAPANESE LOCOMOTIVE AND ENGINEERING CO., LD.

The I.-C. S. Woosang from Hongkong brought the account of the first general meeting of this Company, held in compliance with the Companies Ordinances of that colony. The capital is being subscribed mostly in Hongkong, but Japan and Shanghai are also interested.

Just now, when the Japanese are getting over their conservative objections to the introduction of foreign capital, the formation of another important company in that country is of more than casual interest. It is the rapid and continuous development of the Japanese railway system, and the Japanese preference for home-manufactured goods where possible, that have alike prompted the promoters and given them good auguries.

The meeting was held on the afternoon of the 15th February instant, at the registered offices, 39 and 41, Des Vœux Road, Hongkong. Mr. George K. Hall Brutton presided.

The Chairman reported that twelve acres of land, situated in Kanagawa-ken, near Yokohama, had been purchased. This site for the works was secured for a thousand years, free from all charges except an Imperial tax of 2½ per cent of the assessed value. The land was already levelled, with good solid foundation for immediate building, and was directly connected with rail and water transit. The plans and working drawings were complete and present for the inspection of the shareholders. Very low tenders were already in from responsible contractors for the erection of the buildings. Over fifty per cent of the capital was already promised. The works would be completed in seven months after the whole of the subscriptions were in. Already the manager, whose connection with the Japanese railway world was extensive and well-known, was in receipt of very favourable offers for the building of locomotives and other machinery. The Company was very fortunate in having secured as its managing agents the well-known firm of Messrs. Samuel, Samuel & Co. of London, Yokohama, Formosa, and elsewhere. Having regard to the influence and interests they have in Japan, Formosa, and the East generally, that firm is in an undoubted position to gauge what the prospects of the Company are, and they are backing their opinion by subscribing largely to the capital of the company. The present war between Japan and Russia, whatever its ultimate result might be, would not adversely affect the prospects of the Company, for there were at present in Japan more than four thousand miles of railway, very busy and very profitable, and handicapped only by the urgent need of renewals and additions to rolling stock. Lines were being doubled, and new railways being pushed on in almost every part of the Empire. All the railways were short of rolling stock, and were asking continually for engines and carriages in order to develop their traffic. This Company would supply a quicker and cheaper delivery of such than was possible under present conditions. It requires from 14 months to two years, sometimes longer, to obtain delivery at present. The cost of inspecting in the country where the engines are built—the erection there for steam trial—the taking to pieces again—the packing for shipment to Japan—the cost of delivering to ship—the high rate of freight and insurance on such heavy machinery—the cost

of landing and re-erecting in Japan—and the very high import duty on machinery there, added enormously to the cost of the engines. It was the intention of the management to build engines equal to the best in the world, and to that end their workshops would be equipped with the best and most modern labour-saving and other machinery. They would have their own steel converters and their own copper rolling mills, and no one would be able to turn out better work at a lower cost-price. Practically the whole of their deliveries would take place on their own premises—they would have little or no packing to do—no shipments except for work for abroad—no expensive freight and insurance—and no import duty to be paid by their customers. The only import duty they would have to pay would be the five per cent on whatever raw materials they had to import—a mere bagatelle of what had to be paid on finished machinery imported. Those savings alone represented an advantage of more than twenty per cent over any competitors. The railway companies would appreciate the convenience and economy of having their own inspectors on the spot to see for themselves that all the conditions of the specifications were honestly adhered to. The works were to be under experienced and most careful management. Each department would be in charge of the best working foremen to be obtained from the best British workshops. Under all the conditions, they might look for high dividends, and he (the Chairman) did not for one moment think their expectations would not be amply and fully realised as soon as they got their works in operation.

On the proposal of Mr. Pagett-Hett, and the seconding of Mr. Meurer, the report was unanimously passed. A vote of thanks to the chairman, proposed by the manager, Mr. Finch, closed the proceedings.

THE BATTLE OF PORT ARTHUR.

STATEMENT OF A STAFF OFFICER OF THE
SQUADRON.

The "Kokumin" publishes the statement of Lieut. Matsumura, staff officer of the Japanese squadron which attacked Port Arthur on the 8th and 9th inst., as follows:—

All preparations for action had already been made, when our squadron at Sasebo received orders to go and attack the Russian squadron. Vice-Admiral Togo, Commander-in-Chief of the Japanese squadron, then summoned the divisional commanders and captains of the squadron to the flagship Mikasa and held a council till dawn on the 6th inst. Consequent on the meeting, the First, Second, Third, and Fourth Fleets, torpedo-boat destroyers and torpedo-boats left Sasebo.

On the 7th, when the squadron reached Ninepine Rock (?), we descried one or two steamers far ahead and caused the Tatsuta to capture one of them, which turned out to be the *Rossia*. Our men joyfully exclaimed: "Russia is taken!"

A DETACHMENT FOR CHEMULPO.

The warships assembled off Mokpo at 1 p.m. It was ascertained by the report of the scout ship Asahi, that the Russian warships were assembled outside the harbour of Port Arthur. At 4 p.m. we had to send the Fourth Fleet to Chemulpo in order to protect the landing of the Japanese troops there. Before parting, Vice-Admiral Togo, the Commander-in-Chief, signalled to Rear-Admiral Uriu, Commander of the Fourth Fleet: "I congratulate you, in anticipation, on success." Rear-Admiral Uriu replied: "Thanks for your kindness." Thus amid

strains of music from the bands of the Mikasa and Izumo, the Fourth Fleet sailed for Chemulpo and the main force for Port Arthur.

ON TO PORT ARTHUR.

The night was spent in reconnoitring, every vessel being on guard. The sea ran high, and the destroyers in the rear seem to have suffered terribly.

The 8th dawned very fine. The Squadron did not sail direct for Shantung Promontory, lest we should be observed by the Russians, but made for Yuentao, the Third Fleet leading in order to reconnoitre. The First and Second Fleets, flanked by the destroyers, followed. At 6 p.m. it was decided that the destroyers should attack the enemy. The Commander-in-Chief signalled, "Blow up the enemy's squadron! I wish success to all!" Some destroyers replied that they would succeed, while others declared that they would fight to the last. On their departure, the entire crew of the squadron came on deck and saluted.

The first, second, and third detachments of the flotilla made for Port Arthur, while the fourth went to Dalny. The main squadron sailed in the direction of Chefoo.

THE FIRST ENGAGEMENT.

The detachment that went to Dalny returned as there were no Russian warships there. Those which went to Port Arthur found the enemy, as expected. They fired torpedoes, and hit four Russian warships. The latter shelled us heavily but failed to hit us.

Our squadron kept close watch through the night. The Chitose was sent out the next morning for the purpose of reconnoitring. Near Port Arthur, she met the steamship Foochow, carrying the Japanese residents from Port Arthur to Chefoo. The Chitose ascertained that at least two Russian warships seemed to be settling down, and reported to the Commander-in-Chief to that effect. He at once decided to execute a general attack and concentrated the whole squadron. Off Port Arthur the Takasago captured the steamer Manchuria. The order of attack was issued at 11 a.m. Luncheon having already been served, Vice-Admiral Togo and his staff officers had just poured out champagne when it was reported that the enemy's ships were in sight. We drank the health of the Emperor and then gave three shouts to Banzai. The next moment we were on the bridge and found the enemy at a distance of 10,000 metres.

THE BATTLE.

Golden Hill was observed at noon. Only five or six Russian warships were seen lying forth smoke. As to the others, which were all on an uneven keel, retreat was impossible, but nothing seemed less to their taste than to fight, even under the protection of the forts.

The Mikasa fired the first shot, and the other vessels followed. Some of the enemy's shots hit us, but caused very small damage. Almost all our shots told and the "Shimose" powder was so effective that where our projectiles hit, they scattered destruction. The Asahi, Izumo, and Azuma, were not struck even once. The Third Fleet was stationed far in the rear. Each ship fired for 10 minutes on an average and I was wounded in five minutes.

Firing was not renewed. All the Princes of the Blood on board were safe. Prince Kacho, on board the Mikasa, directed the 12-in. gun in person and hit the enemy's ship. Prince Yamashina, on the Yakumo, also fought bravely.

The squadron celebrated the "Kigen-setau" elsewhere.—"Japan Times."

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES.

THE "Hongkong Daily Press" says:—

The steamship Sado Maru, of the Japan Mail Steamship Company, which arrived at the Royal Albert Docks on the 12th ult., arrived two days ahead of her scheduled time. Her voyage from Marseilles had been watched with some anxiety by the Company in view of the number of Russian war-ships which are known to be in the Mediterranean and in the Straits. A Press representative, in conversation with one of the officers yesterday, ascertained that a declaration of war between Japan and Russia had been expected daily throughout the vessel's voyage, and great was the relief of the crew on arrival at each successive port to ascertain that hostilities had not been commenced. The first occurrence, however, to arouse the apprehension of the officers was the presence of a Russian volunteer cruiser, heavily armed, at Hongkong on the arrival of the Sado Maru there. The Russian ship was still in port when the steamer left Hongkong, but on reaching Singapore there again was the same cruiser riding at anchor, having passed the Sado Maru on the voyage. The Russian vessel followed the Japanese steamer to Colombo, and it was only after leaving that port that the captain got rid of his unwelcome companion. In the Mediterranean the officers kept a sharp look-out, but Marseilles was reached without interference, although several Russian torpedo-boats were sighted in the neighbourhood of Malta. The steamer left the French port for London as the Sado Maru. The same night a remarkable change was effected in her appearance. Her Japanese name was obliterated, the black funnel of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha boats became red, while other alterations were made in the vessel's appearance, and, to complete the change, the vessel was rechristened the Banin. Then to get quickly out of the Mediterranean, the captain steamed on rapidly. Fortunately for the Sado Maru rough weather was experienced during the latter part of the voyage, and no torpedo-boats could have lived in the heavy seas. Once in the shelter of the English Channel, the Sado Maru was safe from molestation, and steps were then taken to restore the ship to its original appearance.

THE "Hongkong Telegraph" says:—

It will be remembered that on November 6th the cruiser Amphitrite struck a coral reef 30 miles off Singapore and had to come to Hongkong for repairs. We reported the accident at the time, and it will be of interest to learn what some of those aboard have written home about their experience. One of them wrote from Hongkong that the cruiser was going at 13 knots when she "went crash into an unknown and uncharted coral reef, which made this gigantic four-funneller jump into the air and shake and tremble like a terrified dog. Thanks to double bottoms, she survived, however, and managed to get back in Hongkong. And now there are hundreds of Chinamen knocking the bottom out. It is bent up like a tin can, and will take till about 15th January to put right, so you can guess that we had a decent bump. These coral reefs are generally found by the loss of a ship. Everybody aboard and elsewhere thinks we are extremely lucky to get off so lightly, and so do I. If we had been another 16 yards to starboard we should have struck in three fathoms of water—18 feet—and we were drawing 27 feet;

then there would have been no more Amphitrite and no more of us, as the place is infested with Johnny Sharks, who find white men more palatable than niggers."

THE following telegram, dated Chumbi, 25th January, is from the Delhi "Morning Post":—

According to bazaar gossip the Tibetans have been reinforced by 905 men, and three cannons, which are described as capable of carrying the distance of a day's march, viz., some eighteen miles. After annihilating the British Mission at Tuna, the Tibetans will take up a position on the hills four miles west of Phari and open a fort. A rumour like the above is reported in Phari fort every evening with pantomimic gestures, which cause great amusement. It seems that the lesson given by the British in 1888 is forgotten, and that the Tibetans believe the impossible. The ignorance and credulity of the people make it likely there will before long be some futile outburst of opposition, which will be followed in all probability by precipitate flight. A more credible rumour reports that the rifle taken from Lieutenant Grant at Phari is now with the Tibetans at Khambugong, who expect to do great execution with it, but up to the present they have been unable to take off the bayonet or open it.

INDIAN papers from Allahabad, to the 22nd January, and Bombay, to the 23rd January, as well as the Ceylon Observer of 28th January, have come.—The "Pioneer Mail" states that the reported appearance of a large number of armed Tibetans near Colonel Younghusband's camp was exaggerated. So far, Colonel Younghusband had expressed no apprehension of an attack. Negotiations are going on with Lamas of position and influence. The people in the neighbourhood of Tuna are friendly, and furnishing supplies.—Lord Kitchener's tour was to take in the Madras Presidency in February.—The question of "Industrial Schools," the most modern educational problem, is receiving the attention of the Indian Government. In England, "Industrial Schools" are understood to be reformatories for erring youth, but here the title indicates institutions for technical training. It was discovered that in India, the impression produced by them, either upon industrial development or upon industrial education, had been relatively small. A Committee was appointed to investigate the conditions, and the Report of that Committee had just (15th January) been published. Its central recommendation was practically in favour of a total change in the system; that industrial instruction in India should be organised upon the mode of the Casonova boys' artisan school at Naples, which aims at giving training alike mental, moral, and manual, in order to produce good citizens, honest men, and skilful artisans.—The "Bombay Gazette" remarks that exports of Indian cotton to Yunnanfu are falling off because a satisfactory cloth is now being manufactured locally.—The same paper reports, on 21st January, that the Lamas have declared they will appeal to Russia if the British advance continues, and that fighting is expected.—The Bombay Chamber of Commerce received a letter from the Decimal Association of London, announcing the probability of a Bill for the adoption of the metric weights and measures being shortly read in the Lords. In the letter was this significant remark: "The principal point to bear in mind is the fact that the people here are very ready just now to listen favourably to the recommendations of our

colonies and dependencies." Can it be that a certain retired statesman, whose name was often read in connection with the four-point-seven, is also one of the men behind the guns of the Decimal Association, which is so convinced that fractions are vulgar?—The "Sind Gazette" has been honoured by an official communication from a Government department, requesting it to give the name of the correspondent who recently supplied it with the news that a blizzard had taken place in a certain part of India, the reason being given that they could not have obtained the information except through a breach of faith on the part of one of the department's subordinates. This quaint demand, probably an outcome of the proposed Official Secrets Bill, should have received the reply that, owing to the Newspaper Office Secrets Law, it would be a breach of faith to tell.

CRYLON, according to the "Observer," is exporting much more than spicy breezes now. Rubber is at last taking a strong position in the list of exports. Nearly 42,000 pounds weight for a start is far from being unsatisfactory.—The Maharajah of Kapurthala, who was a recent guest of the Emperor of Japan, said in Colombo on the 22nd January that although both Japan and Russia were fully prepared for war, he was of opinion that a peaceful settlement was possible. This might be evidence of a genuine hope on the part of his Imperial host, or it may have been only an echo of what he heard everybody saying. It was known in Japan during his visit that a large number of Japanese soldiers (nearly two brigades) had landed in Corea as civilians.—The tea crop estimate, prepared by the Dimbula Planters' Association, is nearly half a million ahead of last year.—The Colombo Oil Mills Co. is sending as exhibit to St. Louis Exposition thirteen enormous packages, showing the vast number of articles that may be produced from the cocoa palm.

The Admiralty evidently contemplates, says the "L. and C. Express," the extensive adoption of oil fuel for warships in the near future. Three old gunboats at Portsmouth have been transformed into oil hulks, their engines, boilers, guns, and everything below deck having been removed and replaced by tanks for oil, with a pump by which the fluid may be raised for filling oil tanks on battleships. Experiments are still being made on board the destroyer *Surly*, and the destroyer *Spiteful* is being prepared for a series of trials. The old battleship *Sultan* is having her furnaces adapted for oil burning, and it is proposed to carry out a series of experiments on her with various kinds of oil and different modes of combustion. Classes of stokers will also be trained to use the liquid fuel, so as to produce the maximum of heat with the minimum of smoke. The battleships *Mars* and *Hannibal*, on returning to Portsmouth, will have the whole of their furnaces adapted for oil. At present they use coal in half the furnaces. The oil furnaces have so far given encouraging results, and the extension of the system is no doubt the result of the experiences gained in the summer manoeuvres, during which the oil fuel was in constant use.

PARTICULARS of a wonderful new motor invented by Mr. Peter Thornley, a Burton-on-Trent engineer, are given by the "Manchester Guardian." The invention is of such importance that its development may result in express railway engines running at twice the present speed, at only half the cost, or the Atlantic liners crossing from Liverpool to

New York in three days. Almost small enough to be carried in a typewriter case, and so compact that everything is enclosed except the driving wheels, the new motor is capable of developing 1,500 revolutions per minute, giving 15 horsepower, under a boiler pressure of say 200lb to the square inch. In even the best railway locomotives the steam is admitted after the piston has moved from 5in. to 8in. along the cylinder, thus forming a vacuum several hundreds of cubic inches in extent, to be filled up before an ounce of power is exerted. Mr. Thornley has devised a valve which will admit a given quantity of steam at the very commencement of the stroke, and so nicely adjusted that the expansive force of the steam admitted is just sufficient to drive the piston to the end of its journey. The most modest estimate of the saving in coal is 25 per cent, while the simplicity of the motor is such that its initial cost is much cheaper than existing types. It is actually claimed that one ton of coal will produce as much power as eight tons with existing types. It can be worked just as well with compressed air as with steam.—"St. James's Budget."

We note that though the "Eastern World" of Yokohama has been the strongest advocate of peace throughout the negotiations between Japan and Russia, Japan's statement of her case has now convinced it of the justice of Japan's contentions. In its issue of the 13th instant it says:—

Baron Komura, the Japanese Minister for Foreign Affairs, has furnished the representatives of the Tokio Press a concise statement of the course of negotiations with Russia, which we publish in another column, and we must say that the extreme moderation and patience shown by the Japanese Government in its demands conclusively proves that the rupture is entirely due to the procrastination of Russia and to the arrogant neglect with which the Japanese requests were treated. The foreign Press of Japan is unanimous in this view. Japan desired safety and the establishment of conditions calculated to make that peace a lasting one. Nothing was asked of Russia for which not a full and equitable equivalent was given, that might not have been granted by Russia at sight to mutual advantage. In the absence of any authentic information, therefore, the long delay on the part of Russia caused the impression here that Japan had made much farther reaching demands than has turned out to be the case, so that much less would be accepted in the end.

We now see, however, that no more was asked at first than at last, and, above all, no more than the interests and the safety of the State demanded. Those demands then having been for months before the Russian Government, which professed the most peaceable intentions, whilst at the same time straining every nerve in preparations for war, the complaint that Japan did not wait for Russia's reply before breaking off negotiations falls to the ground even in the face of Russia's friends.

AUSTRALIAN papers just come are the "Sydney Mail" to 27th January, "Adelaide Observer" to 23rd January, "The Leader" to 16th January, and the "Australasian" to 16th January.—Of the need for developing land, and the difficulty encountered by settlers in securing it, the "Mail" says: "Our legislators have conspicuously failed in promoting land settlement."—Irrigation still continues to be the vital work in such

droughty regions as N. S. W.—The Agent-General for New Zealand has arranged for a direct steamship service between Glasgow and Liverpool and New Zealand ports.—The next State elections in Australia are to be marked by a special activity on the part of the temperance party.—A splendidly illustrated article on pianoforte making appears in the "Mail."—The "Observer" says: "Australia has good cause to regard the Argentine Republic in the light of a dangerous rival, as a producer of food-stuffs."—The same paper gives a remarkable panoramic photograph of the Adelaide Oval, with the Australians batting.—The "Australasian" makes a hit with some Japanese army and navy photographs and sketches, taken from the "Illustrated London News," and "stars" the Far East in its letterpress.

Law Reports.

H. B. M. SUMMARY COURT.

Shanghai, 23rd February.

The two civil cases down for hearing to-day at this Court—Lane, Crawford & Co. v. E. F. Birchall, and the Astor House Hotel Co., Ltd., v. H. W. Cumine—were settled privately in Chambers.

U. S. CONSULAR COURT.

Shanghai, 19th February.

Before Dr. S. P. BARCHET, Acting Consul-General, and Messrs.

W. P. BOYD and W. D. HILL, Assessors.
PAPPS v. FRANKEL.

The Court delivered the following judgment:—

In this case Mrs. Henrietta W. Papps, British subject, sues Hermann Frankel for one quarter's rent of the Sunlight Hotel, \$1,200, according to rental agreed upon of \$4,800 per annum. Also for damages incurred by removing a pavilion, and by allowing the license to lapse.

The deed is dated August 13th, 1903, and the rent was to be paid in advance in quarterly instalments, viz, on the 10th September, the 10th December, the 10th March, and the 10th of June, lessee to pay one half of the rates and insurance. The plea of misrepresentation and fraud put forward by the defence, and the evidence thereon, have been carefully considered. That there was an amount of puffing is not doubted, but we find no conclusive proof of fraud.

The license not being transferable, damages on account of allowing it to lapse are not taken into consideration.

As to the removal of the pavilion and by whose orders it was done, the testimony is conflicting. Its removal, however, does considerably lower the cost of insurance on the premises, and will in the end not prove to be any real loss to Plaintiff.

Defendant had taken a two years' lease of the Sunlight Hotel, at \$4,800 per annum, and paid down \$1,200, rent for the 1st quarter. Finding the business to be a losing one, defendant gave notice on November 11th to quit. Plaintiff would not accept this notice, but when defendant sent plaintiff the key on December 6th or 8th, plaintiff received the key, and on December 10th took possession of

the premises, with the exception of the stables. According to American Decisions, Vol 50, p. 168, when plaintiff took possession of the premises, such entry put an end to the contract; therefore, a quarter's rent at \$1,200 cannot be recovered. But defendant is held responsible for the stables, rental of which was \$110 per mensem as the stables were not taken possession of by the plaintiff.

It is customary in Shanghai to give a month's notice, when quarterly payments are made. In this case, it was a quarterly arrangement and this Court finds that the plaintiff is entitled to three months' rent of stables, that is, \$330 Mexican, and to half the rates and insurance on the stables, for three months. These amounts defendant is ordered to pay. It is further ordered that defendant pay the costs of the Court.

THE NEW AFRIKANDER.

All thinkers are agreed that the ultimate destiny of this continent is magnificent. They differ in opinion in respect of its transitory changes, not its final form. That the Dutch and British elements here will eventually merge into one virile race, strengthened by streams of blood from the most energetic races of other countries, may be confidently predicted; and the Afrikaner of the future should be—nay, it is safe to say will be—a grand specimen of the genus man.

The world has seen with admiration, not unmixed with dismay, the marvellous energy evolved by the fusion of races in America. Here, in South Africa, in the years to come, we shall witness the same thing repeated on a vastly larger scale, with the added advantage of the experience of the Americans to guide us, whose errors we hope to avoid while striving to repeat their success.

At the close of their long and devastating war, the Americans awoke to the grand possibilities of their country, and proceeded to develop them with admirable skill and industry. But even the best of virtues have their darker side and in their feverish haste to achieve material success the Americans denied themselves time for eating; with the result that they became a nation of dyspeptics, a fact which has cost them untold misery and countless dollars. The evil is better understood and more generally avoided by Americans now; and besides, their scientific research has provided an antidote in Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup.

That our people for years past have been subject to the same sort of danger, the experience of Mr. A. Donet, of Clarendon Crescent, Richmond Hill, Port Elizabeth, will prove. Writing on the 19th September, 1903, to Messrs. A. J. White (Colonial) Ltd., corner of Princes and Diesel Streets, Port Elizabeth, Cape Colony (proprietors in South Africa of Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup), Mr. Donet says: "Twenty-five years ago, when I was a young man, I had a very serious illness. My liver was sluggish, and I suffered from acute indigestion. For days together I was tormented by excruciating pains all over my body, but more particularly in my stomach, shoulders, and back. Sometimes the symptoms would change, and I would almost faint or fall asleep even when walking outdoors. My legs seemed to give way, and I felt that they were too weak to support me. In this way I suffered for many months, Doctor after doctor attended me, but not one of them seemed to know what was the matter, and it is certain that I derived no benefit from their medicines. At last I began to think that I should never get relief in this world, when my father advised me to try Seigel's Syrup. It is a safe and certain remedy for much of the trouble you are suffering from," said he, "and if it does you

no good, I don't think it can possibly make you worse than you are."—I was now desperate, and being anxious to try anything, which might do good, I obtained a bottle of the Syrup and began to take it. Its beneficial effect was almost immediately apparent, and after I had taken it for a week I felt considerably better. I continued to take the medicine, and by the time I had finished the second bottle I was quite well. Indigestion, giddiness, drowsiness, and pains had all disappeared, and I could find some pleasure in life again. From that day to this I have been a firm believer in the curative power of Mother Seigel's Syrup, and am careful never to be without a supply of it in my house; for not only is it a sure cure for indigestion, but as a regulator of the system and purifier of the blood it has no equal."

After war, depression; after depression, revival and progress. The outlook for our country is good—worthy of the great race now being evolved.

BIRTHS.

TIPPIN.—On the 17th of February, 1904, at 8, Woosung Road, Shanghai, the wife of James Tippin, of a daughter.

HARVIE.—On the 23rd of February, 1904, at 10, Quinsan Gardens, the wife of John Harvie, of a daughter.

MAITLAND.—On the 23rd of February, 1904, at 180, Bubbling Well Road, Shanghai, the wife of Edward W. Maitland, of a daughter.

MARRIAGE.

SCHWYZER-STEWART.—On the 22nd of February, 1904, at the Holy Trinity Cathedral, by the Rev. C. J. F. Symons, B.A., Francis, second son of the late Frederic L. S. Schwyzer, Esq., of Zurich, Switzerland, to Ethel Louise (Dolly), youngest daughter of J. A. Stewart, Esq., Shanghai.

DEATH.

VON BUTLER.—On the 22nd of February, 1904, at 155, Bubbling Well Road, Arthur Alexander Ladislaus Graf Butler-Haimhausen-Clonebough, aged 58 years.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

Day of Month.	Barometer.		Wind.	Hygro- meter.	Thermo- meter in Shade.		Initials.
	9 A.M.	Altitude Therm.		Dry bulb.	Wet bulb.	Max. Min.	
Feb 17	30.45	49.8	W.N.W.	2	41.2 39.6	52.0 32.4	S.S.
18	30.42	50.0	S.S.E.	1	44.0 39.7	54.2 27.0	S.S.
19	30.11	50.4	S.E.	2	43.6 46.2	62.1 42.6	O.P.
20	30.01	51.3	Calm.	0	51.1 49.6	55.0 46.2	O.M.
21	30.19	51.8	N.W.	2	44.4 41.2	53.4 39.8	C.
22	30.20	50.6	by S.W.	2	45.9 44.6	64.0 37.4	S.S.
23	30.30	52.8	by S.E.	2	53.2 49.0	62.4 41.5	S.S.

EXPLANATION.

Initials:—b. blue sky; c. clouds; f. fog; h. hail; l. lightning; m. misty haze; o. overcast dull; r. rain; s. snow; t. thunder; z. calm. Force from 1 to 12, estimated.

PASSENGERS.

OUTWARD.

Per str. KIANGYUNG.—For Chinkiang—Rev. P. Dannie. For Ngankin—Rev. F. Gratien. For Hankow—Mr. Wigelen.

Per str. YARRA.—For Hongkong—Mr. and Mrs. Landale. Mrs. R. Hutchison, Mrs. T. S. Beals, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Gove, Messrs Hawksley, Bailey, and Fearon. Messrs. Ghisi, J. A. Pond, Marel Hass, F. Bonnet, A. C. Roe, Stempel, C. J. Ashley, A. E.

Blanco, J. N. Lidder, Jullen Kapitan. J. D. Vaughan, Charles Mumm, and Claret. For Saigon—Messrs. Dutine, Konrad, and Demoulin. For Singapore—Mrs. Krause and two children. For Port Said—Mrs. Ellenbogen and three children, Mrs. Anastasia Egorava and child, Messrs. Egorava, Ellenbogen, Pavel Packiusky, and 31 sailors. For London—Messrs. Peter Byrne, Petrich Byrne, Marding, Lufosen, Biedler, Smith, Cody. For Marseilles—Mrs. Kondalseff, Mrs. Gervais and daughter, Mrs. Konkell, Mrs. Austrung, Misses Konkell and Lichtenberger, Messrs. Catanco and Lon Tseng-tsiang.

Per str. SHENGKING.—For Chefoo—Messrs. Grimberg. A. B. Giles, Dufresne, J. R. Lyness, Kristensen, Fried, J. McQueen, and Newall, Masters Grimberg and Pakenham.

Per str. KIANGTEEN.—For Ningpo—Messrs. Swallow and E. T. Nyström.

Per str. TUNGCHOW.—For Weihaiwei—Sergt. Guest. For Chefoo—Mrs. Murray and child, and Mr. Pte Witkowsky. For Tientsin—Messrs. Rew, Hartwell, and S. Hirst.

Per str. KIANGFOO.—For Hankow—Mr. S. Plowright.

Per str. HSINCHI.—For Chefoo—Messrs. R. D. Evans and Panerie.

Per str. POYANG.—For Hankow—Mr. T. E. Trueman. For Kiukiang—Rev. Mrs., and Miss Orr Ewing. For Chinkiang—Mr. Pichon.

Per str. TAMSUI.—For Hongkong—Mr. Manners.

Per str. KWANGTAH.—For Canton—Mr. Schmidt.

Per str. HAESHIN.—For Pagoda Anchorage—Mr. R. M. Bewick.

Per str. HSINCHI.—For Chefoo—Mr. W. D. Evans.

Per str. KIANGYUNG.—For Nanking—Rev. J. Ware.

Per str. SUTAIL.—For Hankow—Dr. V. Danden.

Per str. CHUSAN.—For Hongkong—Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Lee, Consul Post, Capt. R. E. R. Donajowski, Messrs. A. H. Jervis, W. K. Samoyloff, H. T. Thomas, A. E. Blauco, T. W. Mitchell, G. G. Perfect, J. Taylor, P. Jones, A. I. Roussine, and F. Rubbe. For Bombay—Messrs. Hashim Ali, Tien Yung-woo, and Tien Yun-zung. For Port Said—Rev. C. W. Longden. For Marseilles—Mrs. Reilly, Dr. and Mrs. H. H. Taylor, and Mr. R. Roosen. For London—Misses B. Deane and Cooke, Messrs. C. B. Conley, S. J. Lawrence, and Midshipman H. Brotherton.

Per str. TUNGCHOW.—For Weihaiwei—Messrs. E. E. Clark and W. H. Shearer, and Sergt. Guest. For Chefoo—Mrs. Murray and child, Dr. Ellerbeck, Messrs. J. D. Hartwell, Baller, Clough, and Howard. For Tientsin—Misses Thomas and Hopkins, Messrs. Sam Hirst and C. H. Rew.

Per str. PEKIN.—For Ningpo—Miss Palmberg, and Mr. Stave.

Per str. KWANGTAH.—For Hongkong—Mr. A. H. Wardle.

Per str. HAESHIN.—For Pagoda Anchorage—Mr. J. Myers, and 2 Japanese.

INWARD.

Per str. SUIWO.—From Hankow—Rev. and Mrs. Nichols and family, Messrs. Swallow, Macleod, Bailey, Ito, and Koaze.

Per str. SUTAIL.—From Hankow—Mr. Naftaly.

Per str. PEKIN.—From Ningpo—Mrs. W. Hoofe, Miss Osborne, Messrs. Wade and Brown.

Per str. WOOSUNG.—From Hongkong—Mr. C. L. Groff.

Per str. KIANGTEEN.—From Ningpo—Messrs. Franklin and Seymont.

Per str. PEKIN.—From Ningpo—Miss White, Messrs. A. H. White, H. Ollerdesen, R. Lent, Pollock, and Strangmann.

Per str. ROON.—From Bremen—Mr. and Mrs. Kullgreen, Mrs. Milner, Messrs. W. Bruechner and G. Schroeder. From Southampton—Misses Ferguson, E.

Advertisement.

Health for a Shilling.

BY THE USE OF

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS

IF your Liver be sluggish take Holloway's Pills. Should your Stomach be deranged, these Pills, if taken, will act like a charm is your Blood impure? here again is your remedy.

In the hand-to- and struggle for existence, in the present day, good health is everything; when it is lacking all enjoyment is excluded, and competency is too often reduced to poverty. Holloway's purifying, digestive, and laxative Pills are admirably adapted for restoring soundness to invalids, whose functions are so feebly or irregularly performed that life itself seem most precarious. The Stomach has its many maladies removed by a judicious use of the Pills,—the torpid Liver is roused by them to active secretion,—the Kidney are kindly encouraged to greater activity,—the Bowels are gently stimulated, and every other organ subserving digestion is placed at its natural standard and better fitted for its duties.

The old, the young, the rich, the poor, whether soldier or civilian, who may suffer from the consequences arising from over indulgence at the table or otherwise, will find that, if health can possibly be restored, these patent Pills (taken according to the printed direction) will prove their infallibility.

The Friend to All.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT.

Has there ever been a malignant sore, an old ulcer, or a wound of any kind to which this unrivalled "Heal all" has been applied in vain; "certainly not," answer grateful thousands. Even those ulcerous sores arising from nameless causes which sap the very existence of the young and strongest, and which a course of Mercury can never cure, always yield to the influence of this renowned Ointment, when preserverly used in conjunction with the Pills.

For aches or pains, contracted and stiff joints,—for coughs and colds (which latter often settle upon the chest, producing fatal consequences) let the afflicted parts be effectually rubbed with the Ointment, as salt is into meat, and a certain cure will only be a question of time and patience.

IF YOU WANT
BRITISH GOODS

or are willing to act as agents for
LEADING BRITISH FIRMS.

Write to the Editor of
SELL'S

"COMMERCIAL
INTELLIGENCE,"

166, Fleet Street, London, E.C.,
who will insert your inquiry with-
out charge if you will send
references with it.

N.B.—A free specimen copy will be sent on
receipt of a postcard.

19th June, 1902

NOW READY.

THE SECOND EDITION

OF

TREATIES

BETWEEN THE EMPIRE OF CHINA
AND FOREIGN POWERS.

Together with

REGULATIONS FOR CONDUCT OF
FOREIGN TRADE.

Compiled complete to date. Price \$4.00.

MESSRS. KELLY & WALSH, LD.,

"N.-C. HERALD" OFFICE.

P. Lewis, and Parker, Revs. J. G. Wilson, Messrs. J. M. Fleming, Ch. Hall, C. R. McGuire, G. Russell, H. G. Thompson, and M. E. Wells. From Genoa—Mr. and Mrs. Busch, Major. Mrs., and Misses (2) Bittenfeld, Misses E. Beroli, M. Colombo, G. Fugiero, Jacquet, B. Polli, L. Pozzou, R. Ruggerie, and G. Tangozzi, Sister A. Hullmann, Dr. K. Kratzsch, Messrs. G. Bonardi, G. Brambille, O. Bremer, A. Clerici, L. Cabzo, G. Golassini, J. James, B. Maraglia, A. Sartori, Theo. Scholz, A. Van Fu-chu, Wiese, and Bishop S. Volontieri. From Naples—Dr. S. Ellerbeck, and Mr. W. M. Melne. From Colombo—Mr. and Mrs. M. Chussel, and Mr. S. Gerenstein. From Penang—Messrs. J. C. Barlow and W. Jacquet. From Singapore—Miss Gerjic, Messrs. A. Bias, M. Baring, S. Hankin, C. H. Jones, and Th. Wallace. From Hong-kong—Mr. and Mrs. M. Evenburry and child, Mr. and Mrs. A. Lohmeyer, Mr. and Mrs. B. Moss and child, Rev. and Mrs. J. Woodberry, Mrs. J. C. Epperley, Mrs. E. H. Lamme, Mrs. Hana, Mrs. J. Tyffe, Inspector and Mrs. G. Daniels, Misses E. Wilson and C. Weismann, Dr. E. M. Lemel, Capt. Wanwich, Messrs. E. Adelman, Baddeley, P. Brunat, C. Baratz, A. Bakart, J. Busch, F. C. Crompton, C. Emmett, H. Tengye, M. Ginsburg, J. Hunt, K. W. Koop, J. Kernan, Koniaeff, G. Lowder, E. Langlin, H. J. Ling, W. M. Lawson, F. M. Musso, H. Ono, M. Quelch, John Smith, W. Schattschneider, F. J. Spear, J. Seidmann, S. Suzuki, W. P. Wurthmann, A. J. Weatherhead, and G. Walanole.

Per str. CHEFOO.—From Chefoo—Mr. and Mrs. Weill, Capt. Roneyowski, Messrs. Honber and R. H. Newman.

Per str. HAEAN.—From Chefoo—Messrs. Short, Peoples, Olex, Llewellyn, and Daley.

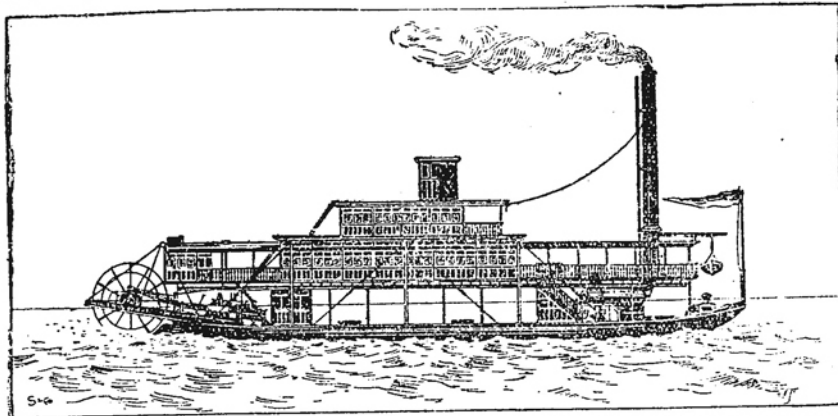
Per str. MEILEE.—From Hankow—Mr. and Mrs. Denham, Dr. Füllenber, Messrs. Gardener, R. O. Rutherford, and Schulz.

Per str. KIANGTEEN.—From Ningpo—Dr. Smyth, Messrs. C. Watson and Burton.

Per str. TATUNG.—From Hankow and Ports—Dr. and Mrs. Hodge, Mr. and Mrs. Hicks, Miss Wilkinson, Messrs. Ure, Hunt, Teesdale, Cornish, and Algar.

Per str. KIANGKUAN.—From Hankow—Rev. and Mrs. Jackson, Rev. and Master Sparham, Messrs. H. Capel, Lee Yi-chin, and Lo Chun-ye.

YARROW'S SHALLOW DRAFT STEAMERS.



STERNWHEEL STEAMERS have been found by experience to be the best type of vessel for shallow river navigation under many conditions of working, and of these Messrs. YARROW have built a very large number of successful examples for all parts of the world.

Vessels on this system are constructed when required, to draw as little as 10 inches.

The construction of shallow river vessels propelled on various systems has been made the speciality of Messrs.

YARROW & CO., LTD.

For particulars apply to

YARROW & CO., LTD., Shipbuilders,
POPLAR, LONDON.

LATE NEWS SUPPLEMENT

NORTH-CHINA HERALD & S. C. & C. GAZETTE.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1904.

THE JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN ASIATIC ASSOCIATION.

II.

FOUR pages are devoted to "The McCumber Plan for the Promotion of Trade with China." There is a letter, dated the 24th of December last, from the Department of State to the A.A.A., asking the opinion of the Association on the plan, and enclosing a copy of the relative Bill introduced by Mr. McCumber in the U. S. Senate, and Mr. Foord's answer. The Bill proposes "the purchase of a tract of land in the city of Shanghai, Empire of China, suitable for the construction of wharves, docks, piers and warehouses for the purpose of facilitating American exports, and for the erection and maintenance of a building for the display of American exports in said city, for the appointment of a commissioner in charge thereof, and for other purposes," and asks for the appropriation of \$275,000 (gold), "or so much thereof as may be necessary," for this purpose. Mr. Foord writes a very able letter showing that this proposed dry-nursing is not required by the American merchants in Shanghai, and that if it were, the sum proposed to be appropriated would be entirely inadequate for the contemplated purpose.

Then come four pages in which the more important of the dispatches in which the U. S. Government, during the term of office of Mr. Secretary Hay, has placed itself on record in regard to the close identification of the interests of the U. S. with the maintenance of the integrity of the Chinese Empire, are collected in convenient form for reference. Mr. Hay's policy has been uniform and consistent in this direction, and in this regard his assistance to China has been invaluable, and he has been ably represented on the spot by the U. S. Minister, Mr. Conger. It is particularly noticeable that there has been no such backing and filling about Mr. Hay's course as has impaired the action of our own Foreign Office, with its spasmodic admissions in Parliament that "Russia occupies a special position in Manchuria," etc., etc. Appended to Mr. Hay's dispatches is a speech delivered at San Francisco last May by President Roosevelt, in which he said:—

"We should deal in a spirit of fairness and justice with all weaker

nations, and we should show to the strongest that we are able to maintain our rights. Such showing cannot be made by bluster, for bluster merely invites contempt. Let us speak courteously, deal fairly, and keep ourselves armed and ready. If we do these things we can count on the peace that comes only to the just man armed, to the just man who neither fears nor inflicts wrong."

Valuable as these papers are, they are perhaps surpassed in value by the extracts which follow from a pamphlet by Mr. Ralph M. McKenzie, "who is qualified to speak with authority on the subject," exposing the fallacy of "The Legend of Russian Friendship for the United States." The myth that has been prevalent for years in the States was repeated again by Count Cassini, as Russian Ambassador, through the "New York Herald" and Washington newspapers, in the following words:—

"Alexander II, the late Emperor of Russia, out of pure friendship offered to aid you during your Civil War with treasures of gold and his fleet of ships, with orders to the commanding admiral, Losowsky, instructing him—in the event of recognition of the Confederacy by France and England—to place his fleet at the disposition of the American Government. This meant that recognition was to be the signal for the declaration by Russia of war against those Powers, and there cannot be the slightest doubt that this knowledge, known to the French and English Cabinets, held them in check."

To this Mr. McKenzie says:—

"The statements contained in the foregoing interview, coming from an Ambassador, are somewhat astounding, for they exhibit not only a lack of knowledge of the conditions of his own country at the time, but also ignorance of the United States, to which he is officially accredited."

"The Russian fleet of five or six vessels (wooden vessels mentioned in the interview) arrived in New York harbour in September, 1863, at which time everybody familiar with the event knows that there was no danger or possibility of the Confederacy being recognised either by France or England, as Forts Henry and Donelson had fallen nearly two years previous, and with their fall disappeared the last vestige of the possibility of European intervention. The writer has personally examined the archives of the State Department at Washington, and found that there is not a single scintilla of evidence to warrant

or sustain Count Cassini regarding the offering by Russia of her 'treasures of gold,' or the use of her fleet as alleged.

"Furthermore, the writer is thoroughly familiar with and knows the purpose of the visit of the Russian fleet to this country in 1863, this knowledge being derived from his acquaintance with Prince Gortschakoff, the Russian Chancellor, and he knows that its mission to American waters was—not to aid or benefit the United States, but rather to protect itself from what was then believed to be an impending danger at home."

Mr. McKenzie adds a most interesting synopsis of Russian relations with the United States from the time of Catherine II of Russia, and repeats that the real object of the dispatch of the Russian squadron to the States was to insure its safety in neutral waters, and the Grand Duke Alexis was sent with it "for the further reason that the flagship which he commanded contained the treasures of the Imperial family sent here (to the U. S.) for safety; also for the reason that at that very time Nihilism was rampant in Russia, and the nobility were secretly plotting against the life and the throne of the Czar, and had hostilities again begun with England and France, a rebellion in Russia would assuredly have followed."

Mr. Foord then reprints the letter of "Anglo-Saxon" which appeared recently in our columns, and follows this by a reproduction of a very interesting report to President Arthur by Mr. James G. Blaine, when Secretary of State in 1881, on "The Separation of Judicial from Consular Functions." Articles on "Japan's Progress during the Last Decade," "The Canton-Hankow Railway," "Japanese Commerce in Manchuria and Northern China," "Siberian and Manchurian Notes," and a conspectus of U. S. "Newspaper Opinions on the Situation" complete an unusually valuable number of the "Journal."

The health and vigour of an individual depend upon the quantity and quality of the blood. When the tissues have been at work, there are thrown into the blood waste products, and if these be not eliminated, but through any cause detained in the blood, they influence nutrition and function and finally produce organic disease.—*The Humanitarian.* In cases of Scrofula, Scurvy, Eczema, Bad Legs, Skin and Blood Diseases, Pimples and Sores of all kinds, the effects of Clarke's Blood Mixture are marvellous. Thousands of wonderful cures have been effected by it. Clarke's Blood Mixture is sold everywhere at 2s. 9d. per bottle. Beware of worthless imitation and substitutions.

LATEST TELEGRAPHIC INTELLIGENCE.

"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS"
Service of Foreign and Local
Telegrams.

THE WAR. MORE FIRING HEARD AT PORT ARTHUR.

Chefoo, 24th February.

The steamer Gouverneur Jaeschke, which has just arrived from Chinwangtao, reports heavy firing at Port Arthur, with searchlights on strong.—*Our own correspondent.*

ANOTHER ATTACK ON PORT ARTHUR.

An official telegram was received by the Russian Consul-General here yesterday, announcing that the Japanese attacked Port Arthur again on the nights of Monday and Tuesday, but were repulsed. Six vessels were reported disabled, but their character and flag are not clearly stated.

A LOCAL REPORT.

Chefoo, 24th February

The report of a Russian reverse off the Yalu is unconfirmed.—*Our own correspondent.*

ANOTHER RUSSIAN PROTEST.

London via Bombay, 24th February.

Russia has sent a note to the Powers, charging Japan with violations of the Law of Nations at Port Arthur and Chemulpo.—*Reuter.*

THE RETURNING REINFORCEMENTS.

London via Bombay, 24th February.

The squadron under Admiral Wirrennius, including the transports, has been ordered home.—*Reuter.*

BRITISH STUDENTS OF THE WAR.

London via Bombay, 24th February.

In addition to Major-General Nicholson and Colonel Haldane, a dozen officers of all arms are being sent to watch the Japanese operations at various points, under the directions of General Nicholson.—*Reuter.*

ANOTHER SMALL JAPANESE SUCCESS.

London, 24th February.

The correspondent of the "Daily Telegraph" at Nagasaki says that the Japanese have captured four destroyers.—*Exclusive service.*

AN AUDACIOUS FAILURE.

London via Bombay, 24th February.

At a courtmartial on three Japanese disguised as coolies who were arrested when attempting to blow up the railway bridge over the Sungari river on the 21st instant, it was revealed that they were a Japanese colonel of engineers, a naval torpedo lieutenant, and a lieutenant of sappers, all belonging to the General Staff.

They were condemned to death and immediately hanged from the Sungari Bridge.—*Reuter.*

GENERAL NEWS.

AN AGGRESSIVE OBITER DICTUM.

London via Bombay, 24th February.

Mr. Muravieff, Russian Minister of Justice, in delivering, as President of the Hague tribunal, the judgment of the arbitrators in the Venezuelan affair, referred disparagingly to the pretensions of the Japanese.

The Japanese Minister has objected to such remarks from an arbitration tribunal, and has requested instructions from Tokio in the matter.—*Reuter.*

THE NEW JAPANESE CRUISERS.

London, 24th February.

The Emperor of Japan has received the British commanders of the Nisshin and Kasuga in a special audience, and conferred on them the Order of the Rising Sun and splendid presents.—*Exclusive service.*

THE PURCHASE OF THE CHILEAN CRUISERS.

London, 24th February.

In the House of Commons, Mr. Austen Chamberlain, Chancellor of the Exchequer, replying to criticisms of the purchase of the Chilean warships, said that their acquisition by another Power would have disturbed the balance of international strength. Their purchase made the British equal to any two European navies.

Mr. Ritchie, ex-Chancellor of the Exchequer, concurred in holding that there were circumstances in the present situation which amply warranted the purchase.—*Exclusive service.*

THE RUSSIAN PROTEST TO THE POWERS.

London via Bombay, 24th February.

The Russian note to the Powers declares that Japan's proceedings are in open violation of the laws governing the mutual relations of civilised nations. After quoting what are described as various flagrant breaches

of international law, Russia says that she considers it her duty to lodge a protest with the Powers, being convinced that they will agree in her attitude.

Russia further declares invalid all orders and declarations arising out of Japan's illegal assumption of power in Corea.—*Reuter.*

BY ARRANGEMENT WITH THE
"OSTASIATISCHE LLOYD."
(Special Cable Service of "Der
Ostasiatische Lloyd.")
(ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.)

NEWS FROM EAST ASIA.

Tsingtao, 23rd February.

The first train with the locomotive "Rosendahl" arrived to-day at Chinanfu. Governor Chou Fu and all officials were at the railway station when the train arrived.

Chefoo, 24th February.

Viceroy Alexieff is at present at Moukden. Lieutenant-General Lenjewitsch is commanding the Russian troops of Liaotung and General Stoessel those of Port Arthur.

Hongkong, 24th February.

A fire broke out to-day in Canton in which about 500 houses were destroyed. The damage is estimated to be one million dollars.

We are asked by Messrs. Sander, Wieler & Co., the agents, to contradict the current rumours that the Austrian Lloyd Steam Navigation Co.'s steamer Silesia, due here at the end of this month, is carrying any war materials for the Japanese Government.

The Chinese Revenue cruiser Ping-ching returned to Shanghai yesterday.

The Chinese Engineering and Mining Co. inform us that they are advised that the river Peiho is now open, but not yet clear of ice.

It will be learnt with satisfaction that the Russian authorities have decided to carry away to Odessa the numerous Russian refugees in Shanghai who have no definite occupation or means of subsistence.

DOCTOR A. MOORE will give an illustrated lecture on "The Story of the Microbe" in the Foreign Y. M. C. A. parlours on Wednesday evening, 2nd March, thus opening the second part of the A. L. and D. C. session.

We have received the "Chefoo Express" of the 13th instant. It contains a number of items under "War News." One or two of them have been confirmed, but the majority come under the somewhat rude heading of "chefooleries."

From recent issues of the "China Times" we learn that the ruins of D'Arc's Hotel at Tientsin were sold by auction for Tls. 700, the British Municipal Council being the buyers.—The news of the Japanese success was placarded in Chinese all over Peking.

YESTERDAY morning Rosa Rodriguez was charged at the Spanish Consulate before Mr. H. G. del Castillo, with keeping a disorderly house, and selling liquor without a license, at 156, Nanzing Road. Detective-Sergeant Gilfillan gave evidence, and the Consul fined defendant \$10, and ordered the house to be closed.

THE annual meeting of the Association of British Colonials in the Far East should have been held at 13A Canton Road at 5.30 p.m. yesterday. As, however, a quorum of 15 was necessary and only 10 turned up, the meeting was adjourned until 5.30 p.m. on Wednesday, the 2nd prox. at the same place.

MANY friends assembled at the Bubbling Well Cemetery on Tuesday afternoon to pay their last respects to the late Count von Butler. The coffin was covered with beautiful wreaths, and the leading members of the English, German, Chinese, and other foreign colonies were present. The funeral service was read by Pastor Boie, and at the conclusion the remains were cremated.

THE Volunteer training season is now beginning in real earnest. The Light Horse, Artillery and Maxim Cos. commenced their training on the 22nd inst. The Infantry Companies will start on the 5th proximo. Full details of the course have now been circulated throughout the force. It is to be hoped that the weather will be more favourable than it was last year.

THE "Yorozu Weekly" never believed that staidness was necessary to an educational organ, but with the declaration of war and the news of the opening of naval victories it has become more lively than ever. As a supplement to the issue of the 15th February there are large photographs of the Russian men-of-war *Tsarevitch*, *Retvizan*, *Pobieda*, and *Bayan*, and the articles on which students of English are invited to try their skill burn with martial and patriotic fervour.

THE following little story is told by the "Caxton Magazine" as having a moral for manufacturers who stick to their old-fashioned plant from a disinclination to spend money on new machinery. "The argument somehow reminded us of the man who went into the hardware shop and enquired: 'How much do you ask for a bathtub for a child?' 'Ten and six,' was the reply. 'Great Scott!' said the customer, 'We'll have to go on washing the baby in the coalscuttle until the prices come down.'"

MR. CHAMBERLAIN'S Tariff Reform League has adopted a campaign song for use at Mr. Chamberlain's meetings. The most poetical and tasteful chorus of this anthem is:—

"Buy! buy! buy! at the John Bull Store
The Deutscher and the Yank we shall
want no more,

And the money that we gain

Will in British hands remain,

If we buy at the John Bull Store!

On the title-page of the song as published with the music is the announcement: "By arrangement with the 'Daily Express,' a large portion of the profits arising from the sale of this song is paid to the Tariff Reform League."

Nothing could be more whole-heartedly patriotic than this, and buyers of the song could not but be comforted by feeling that "the money that we gain will in British hands remain." Unfortunately, the "Morning Leader" has discovered that the song is entirely German-made, the printers, Messrs. Röder & Co., being a firm registered as a company with a capital divided into 1,050 shares, of which all but 30 are held by Germans residing in Leipsic, while the publishers, Messrs. Elkin & Co., are also Germans.

WE have received the "Peking and Tientsin Times" to the 13th inst.—The Russian troops marching to, and at, Liaoyang where they are said to number 40,000, are apparently living on the country, to the great distress of the inhabitants.—The Russian force at Kalgan, which is overawing Peking, amounted on the 7th inst. to 572 men. There were 3,500 Chinese troops there.—Mr. Lessar has again notified the Chinese Government that Russia is going to send troops to Tientsin and Peking to protect these places.—Viceroy Chang Chih-tung had left for his home at Nanpei, Chihli, and was at Tsingcho on the 9th.—The Italian Marconi station at Tientsin was ceremoniously inaugurated on the 11th.

THE Lao Kung Mow Cotton Spinning and Weaving Co., Ltd., held its annual meeting last (Wednesday) evening. In his speech, the Chairman, Sir Charles Dudgeon, expressed regret that the outcome of the year's working was not sufficiently good to justify the payment of a dividend. The supply of raw materials and the price obtained for yarn were alike unsatisfactory towards the end of the cotton season. When cotton became plentiful, there was a good deal of watering. The war was against business, and they were passing through an anxious time, but his references to the stock and management indicated that the company was as favourably situated as could be expected. A detailed report of the meeting is held over.

AN inquest was held yesterday (Wednesday) afternoon at the American Consulate, touching the death of the Raleigh sailor MacFarlane, already reported. It was held by Dr. Barchet and two assessors, Messrs. Rosenthal and Castle. The medical evidence was very colourless. The chief item of fresh intelligence was that the young man (a perfect specimen of manhood, without any physical blemishes) had produced a box of opium and told the opium-den people that he was used to smoking. He had two pipes only, and went to sleep. Failing to wake him, the attendants sent for the police. The police considered him as an ordinary "drunk" until they found the opium in his pocket. Then they got anxious and took him to hospital. It is thought that he must have swallowed some, but as the stomach pump had been applied at the hospital, there was no evidence either way. The verdict was reserved until this (Thursday) morning.

STRAITS papers came yesterday, bringing news dated to the 10th February. The weekly "Budget" of the "Straits Times" is presenting its war news in a neat and attractive form. Fleet Street crowds, it said, were nightly cheering Japan.—From Penang comes the cheering intelligence that the butchers' strike is over.—The editor, contemplating the possibility of this war involving England, France, and other Powers, retains complacency. He says that "nearly all the greatest achievements of mankind have been arrived at through war", and adduces the "inexorable records of history" to corroborate. There are histories and histories, of course, and the Singapore editor seems to have studied the wrong ones. Peace on earth might be followed by universal stagnation, but to credit war with nearly all human achievement is absurd enough to be a *lapsus calami*. In comparing classic wars with modern, and arguing their influence in helping the fittest to survive, it must not be forgotten that

tempora mutantur, et *bella mutantur* in illis. The old fashioned pedagogues who tacitly permitted fisticuffs as improving the stamina and tone of their boys, would not have been as tolerant of mere stone-throwing, and the analogy is apt enough.—In another leader, the "Times" says Yuan Shih-kai is the coming man in China, and believes a war with Russia is the only course of salvation open to China.—Further extracts are held over for another paragraph.

THE "Yorozu Weekly" tells the following:—

Miss Susan Ballard, the English missionary who had her gold watch and gold medal stolen by two burglars on the 25th inst., has asked the "Yorozu Choho" to insert in its columns a public appeal addressed to the house-breakers in the following terms:—

TO THE PARTIES WHO STOLE MY WATCH
AND CHAIN.

Please restore to me the gold medal attached to the watch. The trinket can be of no value to you, but is the dearest treasure to me, it having been awarded to my father in recognition of his gallantry in a well-known battle during the Anglo-Russian War, fifty years ago. You may send the medal back to me by post.

SUSAN BALLARD,
No. 3 Yaraicho.

Since the victim in this case is a daughter of England, Japan's staunch ally, and the stolen article is a precious memento of an Englishman's bravery in a war against Russia, the article should be the last thing on earth for a Japanese (even though a burglar) to lay unlawful hands on. We hope the parties addressed have not yet fallen to such depths of degradation as to disown their nationality, and that they will respond to the gentle appeal at once, especially as the article can be of little value to anybody but the owner.

THE February issue of the "St. John's Echo" opens with an editorial notice of the late Bishop Ingle. Then follow several columns of College news, which forcibly impress the reader with admiration for the energy displayed by the students and derived from their teachers, in the pursuit of the studies and recreations that build up the complete graduate. The only right the first long paper has to appear in this company is that it was read before the St. John's College Alumni Association. It is by the Rev. W. Nelson Bitton, and its subject is "The Relation of Religion to Reform, illustrated by the Protestant Reformation." As a historical study it well deserves a much wider circulation than the "Echo" can be expected to give it. Mr. Z. F. Ling writes an interesting account of the Hakkas, a people in but not of the province of Kuangtung, who came originally from Shensi, and who have never tolerated foot-binding. The leader of the Taiping Rebellion was a Hakka. Mr. Samuel E. Chiu discourses on "Chinese Mysteries." He mentions as coming under this category the persistency of foot-binding, the abuse of opium, the neglect of mining, the variety of languages, the cringing to Russia; and he urges his fellow-countrymen to achieve their independence and dissipate these mysteries. Mr. K. Z. Li carries his account of "The Life of a Private Gentleman with his Son" to the cemetery. His concluding paragraph is:—

"It seems to me that the Law of Heredity has something to do with men's

habits. I inherited my father's eccentricities. While I was teaching in a school I constantly dogmatized often to the perplexity of my seniors. My father in his latter years lived a very beautiful life. He died at the age of fifty-eight. I, for a certain reason, was never married. On coming to my fifty-fourth year I caught a severe cold and died."

The author of this would have added to the value of his autobiography if he had said where he wrote the last sentence.

Then we have the first instalment of a useful description of Chinese Punishments by Mr. K. F. Chang; and the number ends with a translation by Mr. N. L. Nien of the first scene of the Chinese play, "Jack of Four Trades," acted at the College on Christmas Eve last.

In the American Settlement, Washington's birthday was not overtly marked as an extra special occasion for rejoicing. Bunting seemed scarce. On the river, many of the ships, particularly those flying the English flag, were dressed. The American monitor Monadnock and the English sloop Rosario were particularly gay. Perhaps the most noticeable thing was the Russian gunboat Mandjour, which showed there was no ill-feeling by flying "Old Glory" at the main. On the door of the American Consulate appeared the typically brief announcement: "Office closed. Washington birthday," and, except the Astor House dinner in the evening, that was all.

WAR REPORTS.

Tokio—

This afternoon Count Oklahama, While taking notes from Fujiyama, Saw something through the water slip That seemed a Russian battleship. He's trying to report the same, But no one can pronounce the name.

Port Arthur—

Admiral Bangoff's battleships, The splendid Alexanderipski, This morning met an accident That much expensive damage meant. Her first three syllables exploded—Bang didn't know the name was loaded.

Moukden—

This morn's canard at rise of sun Reported naval war begun, Far off the coast some heard the rattle Of what they thought were guns in battle.

But soon investigation proved That our alarms were falsely moved— "Was simply Admiral Nagasaki Swearing Jap-fashion at a Jacky.

Vladivostok—

A Russian proper name, they say, Broke from the arsenal to-day, And now is bounding through the snows,

Adding syllables as it goes. If not soon checked it will define The whole Korean boundary line, Till of explosive vowels is made An unassailable barricade.

—WALLACE IRWIN in the "New York Commercial Advertiser."

We have received Hongkong papers to the 19th inst.—Dr. Corfe, Bishop of Corea, and Commodore Dicken arrived in Shanghai by the Ballarat.—The N. Y. K. S. Wakasa Maru, which left London on the 15th of January, is laid up at Colombo temporarily. Her passengers for the Far East are coming on in the M. M. S. Sydney and P. & O. S. Coromandel.—Admiral Noel, the new Commander-in-Chief on this station, left

London on the 5th inst. in the P. & O. S. Mongolia.—Sir Matthew Nathan, Governor of Hongkong, is expected to arrive there in the early summer.—All the Japanese naval reservists in Singapore have been ordered home.—H. M. armoured cruiser King Alfred, 14,100 tons, 44 guns, 23.46 knots' speed, arrived at Hongkong on the 13th with a large number of reliefs on board.—The King Alfred on her way out played a cricket match at Colombo against H. M. S. Hyacinth. The kings were all out for nine runs, the flowers making 73 for five wickets.—The opening performance of "His Excellency" by the Hongkong A. D. C. on the 13th was a great success.—The Library of the Turin University with its magnificent collection of old manuscripts has been burnt. Only some 100 out of 4,500 were saved.—It is reported from London that Mr. Freeman Cohen has committed suicide.—Owing to lack of funds, no Indian Cricket Team is going to England.—The Canton-Fatshan railway is so well patronised, that eleven trains are being run each way daily.—In the two days' cricket match last week between the Hongkong Cricket Club and the United Services, the Club won by an innings and 47 runs, making 437 in their first innings, against 210 and 180 made by the Services.—It was rumoured at Esquimalt early last month that H. M. first-class cruiser Grafton, flagship of the North Pacific squadron, had been ordered to China.—Dallas's Musical Comedy Company arrived at Hongkong by the Roon.—The steamer Deuteros was lost on the Paracels while on a voyage from Saigon to Hongkong with a cargo of rice.—The new Chinese-owned steamer Kwong Tung, built by Messrs. W. S. Bailey and Co. for the Hongkong-Canton trade, made a successful trial trip at Hongkong on the 13th.—The British steamer Salfordia, 3,666 tons, with a cargo of coal from Newport, Wales, arrived at Hongkong on the 14th, leaking, having struck the same morning on one of the Lema Islands.—The Harrison liner Yeoman, with a cargo valued at over £200,000, is reported totally lost off Cape Finisterre.—The new French river steamer Paul Beau caught fire on the 15th on her way from Canton to Hongkong through her funnel getting overheated. The passengers were transferred to the Fatshan, the fire was extinguished, and the steamer was brought to Hongkong.

WUCHANG.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

16th February.

The Chinese New Year

has come and the streets are full of serious people busy paying calls. Small vendors tempt passers-by to buy ingenious Chinese toys, and the richsa coolies, the chair-men, and boatmen reap a rich harvest.

Yesterday, the last day of the old year, was wet, to the distress of the shopkeepers, but to-day the sun is shining once more, so the paying of calls is a pleasant as well as a meritorious duty.

The War.

The people of Wuchang take little interest in the war, but I have just heard, on good authority, that some three thousand Chinese troops are being dispatched to Shanhaikuan. Half of these have been thoroughly drilled by German officers, the other half are more or less untrained. They are armed with repeating rifles manufactured at the Hanyang

arsenal and will be under the command of Colonel Wu, an old military official ignorant of Western methods of warfare, but of some reputation and military experience, and Colonel Wang Tê-shen, who has some little knowledge of German military tactics.

WEIHAIWEI.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

22nd February.

The War.

The s.s. Haimun returned this morning from a trip to Chemulpo with the "Times" correspondent. The wrecks of the Varyag and the Coreetz were inspected. The latter seems a hopeless wreck, but the former is damaged on one side only. The Japanese propose to raise her, and are stated to be confident of success. A Russian transport was also seen sunk in shallow water.

THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL.

At a meeting of the Council held in the Board Room on Wednesday, the 10th of February, 1904, there were present: Messrs. W. G. Bayne (Chairman), A. W. Burkill, H. De Gray, C. Montague Ede, D. Landale, A. M. Marshall, O. Meuser, C. W. Wrightson, the Secretary, and the Assistant Secretary.

The usual formal business is transacted.

Auditor, Death of Mr. Limby.—The Council records its regret at the loss of Mr. Limby's services and votes a gratuity of one year's pay to his widow.

Annual Report.—Noting that the Electrical Engineer's report for the past year has not yet been commenced, owing to pressure of work in installing the new plant and renewing the street lighting, the Council sanctions publication of that department's report and accounts separately from the rest of the Council's annual statement, for the information of the Ratepayers.

Dicwell Road.—Acceptance is authorised of an offer by Mr. R. B. Moorhead to take a nominal lease of the portion of Cadastral Lot 300, surrendered in 1901 for the extension of this road, for \$1 per annum, the arrangement to remain in force until the road construction is undertaken.

Road Extension No. 2 E. (Scou-hong-jau-ka.)—From the reply of Mr. R. B. Moorhead to the Council's letter on the subject of a strip of unregistered land required for the widening of this alleyway, the Council notes that the owner is not prepared to surrender for a less sum than Tls. 1,000. It is decided that the improvement is not of sufficient value at present to warrant the expenditure of this sum, and in consequence the widening will be postponed.

Canton and Szechuen Roads.—The Council's acceptance of an offer by Messrs. Atkinson and Dallas for the surrender of 2-li 7-hao of land ex Cadastral Lot 107 for the widening of these roads is recorded.

Permits.—A discussion takes place in regard to the number of permits annually issued by the Engineer's Department for the erection of funeral arches, for the fixing of sign-boards, for house repairs, and for other miscellaneous work, which now number as many as 5,000. In view of the inspection and clerical work involved, it is decided to inaugurate a system of fees to cover the cost, and the Engineer is directed to prepare for the

Works Committee's approval a suitable scale of fees.

Mixed Court, Case of Chou Fu-seng.—The following correspondence, on the subject of the illegal removal of this native from the Settlement, is ordered for publication:—

Shanghai, 2nd February, 1904.

SIR,—We, the undersigned committee of the native banks, residents, and ratepayers in the Settlement, beg to bring to your notice the following in connection with the case of Chou Fu-seng.

We have been given to understand that owing to our recent petition, through the Chamber of Commerce, to the Taotai to instruct the City Magistrate to have Chou Fu-seng taken from the Mixed Court to his (the City Magistrate's) Court and to compel him to declare and surrender his other properties for discharging his liabilities in a more satisfactory manner, the Consular and Municipal Bodies have considered this as a breach of regulation and have communicated with the Taotai that this man should be taken out to the Mixed Court again, and that if such is the case, we beg respectfully to submit that it will tend to destroy trade.

We therefore most respectfully state the full particulars of the case and request that the Municipal Body will take the matter into consideration on next meeting.

As Chou Fu-seng is a native merchant and failed some time ago with liabilities to foreign and native creditors to the amount of over Tls. 110,000, out of which he owed Tls. 20,000 to foreign creditors, Messrs. Carlowitz & Co., and others, who sued him in the International Mixed Court, and he owed over Tls. 95,000 to our native bankers, and we joined in suit, and after several hearings, it was decided by the Magistrate and Assessors concerned that the assets of the firm of Tung Fah-chang, of which Chou is proprietor, be handed over by the defendant to liquidate his liabilities, and the said assets realised about Tls. 10,000 only, that is, about one-tenth of his whole indebtedness. The foreign creditors who did not know that Chou had other properties, were and had to be, satisfied with the judgment rendered, therefore the case in the Mixed Court, as far as the foreign creditors are concerned, was settled, but our native bankers knew that Chou had goods conveyed to others as soon as he had failed in business and he had interests in firms in Canton, Chinkiang, Hankow and other ports, therefore we are obliged to petition to Taotai for the above practice. Should we be able to get anything more out of Chou through the City Magistrate we are quite willing that the foreign creditors concerned should have a fair share.

Now our object in wishing to have Chou taken before the City Magistrate is because the City Magistrate has more efficient means than the Mixed Court Magistrate in compelling the debtor to discharge his liabilities to his creditors, as he could have the official rank of the debtor cancelled or have him punished while under detention and he could deliver Chou's property from the other ports, while, as you are aware, Sir, the criminal power of the Mixed Court Magistrate, is limited, and he could not efficiently force a debtor to pay what he can pay.

For the above reason, we beg most respectfully to bring to your notice that if Chou should be allowed to have his ways approved and backed up by the Consular and Municipal Bodies by making them believe that the City officials have over-

stepped their authority in having him taken to the city without the concurrence of the assessors, it would be almost impossible for our native bankers to carry on business safely in the future if all their debtors could thus evade their liabilities. The payment will be made in an indefinite period and we shall be utterly ruined. While Chou, who failed in payment, has his firms in other ports, he can have comfortable time himself. We hope that this is not the true intention or desire of foreigners.

Moreover we sued the case to Taotai after the settlement with the foreign creditors by Mixed Court. It is also a purely mercantile case and has nothing to do with politics.

For the sake of the business importance therefore we trust your leniency, justification and influence that should there be a little breach in the Settlement Regulations we must beg your excuse, Chou Fu-seng the dishonest merchant not to be protected, and Consular Body to be requested not to communicate any further with Taotai on the case. We are sure that by leaving Chou in the custody of the City Magistrate both the foreign and Chinese creditors would have a better chance of getting payment.

As we are residents and ratepayers of the Settlement we trust that this application will meet with your favourable consideration.

We have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servants,
HSIA LUN-HUA,
YUAN LIEN-CHING,

For the Committee of Native Bankers' Guild.

The CHAIRMAN,
Municipal Council.

Council Room,

Shanghai, 5th February, 1903.

SIR,—Your letter of the 2nd instant, referring to the case of Chou Fu-seng, has received the attention of the Council and, in reply, I am directed to state that the Council takes the strongest exception to the procedure for which you claim consideration and is addressing the Consular Body, requesting that the defendant Chou Fu-seng be returned to the Foreign Settlement without delay. The Mixed Court is entirely competent to deal with a civil suit of this kind in a regular and effective manner and the Council cannot but regret that native merchants, of high standing such as your Guild represents, should have taken action for the furtherance of their own interests in direct violation of the rules established for the better order security and administration of the Settlement.

The Council trusts that you will take all steps in your power to obtain the immediate return of the defendant and his proper prosecution at the Mixed Court, since his continued detention in the Shanghai Hsien's Yamen is entirely inadmissible.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

J. O. P. BLAND,
Secretary.

To the Chairman of the Committee
of the Native Bankers' Guild,
Shanghai.

Electric Omnibuses.—The Council approves generally the issue of licenses to run electric omnibuses in the Settlement under the conditions named in an application by Mr. E. M. Turner.

Volunteers, Artillery.—The Major commanding notifies the resignation of 2nd Lieutenant Bennett.

Yangkingpang.—Letter from the French Council is submitted replying to the first and fourth paragraphs of the Council's letter of 12th October last. This document is ordered for publication.

Translation of letter from the French Council, dated 8th February, 1904.

SIR,—In continuation of my letter of the 28th December last and in reply to paragraphs 1 and 4 of your letter of the 11th October, 1903, relating to the culverting of the Yangkingpang, I am directed to communicate to you the views of the French Council on this subject.

Paragraph 1.—As regards paragraph 1 of your letter of the 12th October for the services of the Police an arrangement might easily be made between the Municipal Council and the French Consular authorities on the following basis:—

The foot-path would be divided into two equal parts running from East to West. Along the line in the middle, which would form the limit, electric lamps would be placed at regular intervals as is done on the Quai de France. Experience has shown the convenience of such an installation. Indicators would be fixed on the North and South sides of these electric lamp-posts showing the respective sides of the French Municipality and that of the Municipal Council. The cost of installing such lamps and of the lighting would be borne in equal parts by the two Municipalities, the electric current being furnished by the International Settlement.

The French Police would then naturally take charge of the administration and of vehicular traffic on the southern side of the foot-path, while the International Police would function on the Northern side of the line of electric lights.

Paragraph 4.—As regards paragraph 4, the Council considers that there is no reason to consult the Chinese authorities who are in no way interested in the question and whose opinion has never been required, at least on the French Settlement, for any public works that have been executed.

I am, etc,

A. BORRU,
Secretary.

J. O. P. BLAND, Esq.,

Secretary, Municipal Council.

Thomas Hanbury School.—The following letter and reply record the constitution of the Committee of Management of this institution during the ensuing year:—

Thomas Hanbury School and
Children's Home.

Shanghai, 3rd February, 1904.

SIR,—In pursuance of the terms of the Deed of Trust of this Institution, I have the pleasure to inform you that the number of our subscribers exceeds fifty, and the amount of subscription with the interest on the endowment fund added, is more than Tls. 500—so that in accordance with Clause 11 of the Deed of Trust we have to elect eight members to serve on the Committee, and your Council will appoint four.

The names of those ladies and gentlemen who are willing to serve on the committee if elected are stated at foot, and I shall be glad if you would indicate the names of the four whom you decide to appoint, and communicate their names to me at your convenience.

It is hoped the management of the affairs of this Institution meets with the approval of your Council, and that provision for the annual grant will be made in the Budget for the ensuing year.

The report and accounts will be sent you in due course.

I am, Sir,
Yours obediently,
A. FLEET,
Hon. Treasurer.

Mr. F. S. A. BOURNE, President
Mr. A. WRIGHT, Vice-President
Rev. C. E. DARWENT.
Mr. A. W. BURKILL.
Mr. H. E. HOBSON.
Mr. A. FLEET.
Mrs. REID.
Mrs. BURKILL.
Mrs. BERNER.
Mrs. SMALLEY.
Mrs. POATE.

The Chairman,
Municipal Council.

Council Room,

Shanghai, 4th February, 1904.

SIR,—I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of yesterday's date, having reference to the constitution of the Committee for the Thomas Hanbury School and Children's Home during the coming year and, in reply to this communication, I am to state that the Council is pleased to learn that the affairs of this institution continue to be in a satisfactory condition and will make the usual annual grant in the Budget for its support.

Of the names of ladies and gentlemen submitted by yourself as willing to serve on the Committee, the Council selects Mr. F. S. A. Bourne, Mr. A. Wright, the Rev. C. E. Darwent and Mr. A. W. Burkill as representing the Municipality.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
J. O. P. BLAND,
Secretary.

A. FLEET, Esq.,
Hon. Treasurer,
Thomas Hanbury School and
Children's Home,
The meeting then adjourns.

The following are forwarded for publication with the foregoing minutes:—

POLICE WEEKLY REPORT.

Return of apprehensions, etc., made by the Police during the week ending 5th February, 1904.

Offences.	No. of Apprehensions.
Assault.....	10
Breach of Municipal regulations.....	110
Burglary.....	4
Breach of garbage regulations.....	31
Cruelty to Animals.....	1
Committing nuisance.....	413
Embezzlement.....	2
Fighting and creating disturbance.....	9
Fraud.....	1
Furious riding and/or driving.....	1
Gambling.....	9
Larceny from persons.....	1
" dwellings, etc.....	68
Obstruction.....	7
Unlawful possession.....	5
Miscellaneous cases.....	48
Ricsha licenses suspended.....	483
" confiscated.....	7.1
Wheelbarrow licenses suspended.....	96
Hand cart.....	3
Beggars, hawkers and ragpickers.....	521

Total number of persons coming under the notice of Police..... 2,667
Chinese dead bodies found in streets..... 8
Stray dogs captured..... 23
 " shot..... 1

A. M. BOISRAGON, CAPT.,
Captain-Superintendent of Police

ENGINEER'S REPORT FOR JANUARY.

Municipal Buildings and Properties.

The Works in Progress are.—Hospital for Infectious Diseases Range Road; Public School for Chinese and Masters' Residences, Elgin Road; New Police

Station, corner of Sinza and Jessfield Road; New Police Station, Avenue Road; S. V. C. Head-quarters, Municipal Compound; Block of Cells for Female Convicts; Municipal Gaol; Market Sheds, Avenue Road and Ward Roads.

Works Completed are.—Temporary District Fire Station, Avenue Road; Boundary Wall and Gates to Materials depot in rear of H. B. M. Gaol.

Streets.

Negotiations have taken place with regard to a strip of unregistered land opposite Cadastral Lot 361, E. for widening the Seu-nong-jaoka.

Works Completed on Road Extensions.

Works have been completed in Western District on Avenue Road and Weihaiwei Road, Northern District on Elgin Road, Road Nos. 4, 26, 7, 27, Tsepo, Alabaster and Haining Roads, Eastern District Ward and Tongshan Roads, and Road No. 4, as shown by the following table:—

Districts.	Western.	Central.	Northern.	Eastern.	Outside Roads.	Totals.
3' Culverts.	..	..	37	..	..	37
2'3" x 1'6" Sewers.	..	..	135	..	..	135
1'6" x 1'0" Sewers.	..	..	102	..	..	102
12" Sewers.	..	..	407	..	..	407
9" Sewers.	..	..	555	..	..	555
6" Drains.	..	..	410	..	..	410
Street Gullies.	..	..	18	..	2	20
Raising.	..	..	830	..	..	830
Brickling.	..	..	465	..	..	1,725
Metalling.	..	..	250	..	..	253
Kerb and channel laid.	..	..	429	..	..	429
Chip-paved footways laid.	..	..	320	..	..	318

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS need only a single trial to make known their capabilities. No outside sore, or inward inflammation, can long withstand the cooling, purifying and healing influences exerted by these twin Medicaments. Be the mischief recent or chronic, great or slight, painful or simply annoying, it will succumb before the curative virtues of these remedies, which can be rightly applied by any person who will attentively read their accompanying directions, which are propounded in the plainest language, void of all technical terms, and printed in the most legible characters. To the man of business, confined to his counting house, and harassed by engagements, also to the man of pleasure addicted to free living these Pills are invaluable.

Works Completed on Existing Roads.—The following table shows lengths of sewers with necessary manholes and gullies laid, new street gullies laid in place of old defective ones, lengths of new pavements and kerb and channel laid and roads metalled, etc., during the month:—

Districts.	Western.	Central.	Northern.	Eastern.	Totals.
9" Sewers.	24	..	..	..	24
New street gullies in place of defective ones.	..	2	..	..	2
Concrete pavements.	..	..	1	..	1
Chip-paved footways repaired.	..	2,030	..	..	139
Chip-paved carriage-ways repaired.	..	870	..	..	2,030
Chip-paved footways laid.	..	..	743	..	370
Chip-paved carriage-ways laid.	..	..	2,486	..	743
Kerb and channel laid.	..	..	212	..	2,486
Brickling.	..	..	1,097	..	1,290
Metalling.	..	..	1,650	..	..
Roads repaired, patching, etc.	..	9,000	890	..	7,242
Gas, Water, Telephone and Electrical trenches.	..	1,167	1,059	..	8,187
Chip-paving repaired.	..	..	465	..	7,984
Foot paths raised.	..	..	450	..	915
	..	..	11,195	..	11,195

Cleansing and Scavenging.

7,748 cartloads of garbage were collected, an increase of 492 cartloads over the corresponding month of last year. The creeks and river have been patrolled and the Garbage Receiving Stations visited once during the month.

A slight fall of snow occurred on Sunday morning, 17th January. The streets were completely cleared by 5 p.m. 650 cartloads of snow were collected and removed.

The Garbage Contractor was fined \$25 for a breach of his agreement.

Quarry.

1,815 tons of road materials have been received during the month from the Council's quarry.

Concrete Ware.

The following concrete ware has been made at the Council's Dépôts during the month:—

Hongkew Dépôt, ... 2,099 pieces.
Sinza Road Dépôt, ..
Total 2,099 "

Creeks and River.

Concrete Bundings are being constructed on the North bank of the Soochow Creek between Winchester and North Fokien Roads and between North Szechuen Road and Garden Bridge.

SUMMARY OF GENERAL MUNICIPAL RATE, NATIVE, DECEMBER QUARTER.

	1903.		1902.		1901.	
	No. of Houses.	Rental	No. of Houses.	Rental	No. of Houses.	Rental
		Assessment.		Assessment.		Assessment.
		\$		\$		\$
Central District	13,377	2,862,495	13,673	2,571,563	13,786	2,417,165
Northern do.	13,305	1,280,131	13,144	1,39,353	13,067	920,413
Eastern do.	9,842	607,053	9,739	516,693	9,627	461,530
Western do.	7,082	453,874	6,492	322,904	6,344	267,221
Total	43,606	5,213,553	43,048	4,450,523	42,804	4,066,429
Occupied by Foreigners	41,807	4,908,289	41,164	4,211,448	40,636	3,830,582
do. Foreigners	912	178,814	858	134,953	805	116,327
do. do.	...	...	...	...	...	...
Unoccupied	887	126,450	1,026	104,122	1,363	119,520
Total	43,606	5,213,553	43,048	4,450,523	42,804	4,066,429
Tax collected @ 10%		70,675		63,167		59,099
Central District		30,709		25,180		22,438
Northern do.		14,613		12,507		10,794
Eastern do.		10,779		7,801		6,366
Western do.						
Total		126,776		108,655		98,697

A. JOHNSFORD,
Overseer of Taxes.

New Buildings.

Plans have been approved by the Council for the erection of 376 buildings made up as follows:—

Western District	68
Central "	22
Northern "	202
Eastern "	84
Total, ...376	

The following table shows lengths of drains, etc. of various sizes laid on private property by the Department during the month:—

Districts.	Western.	Central.	Northern.	Eastern.	Totals.
1'6" x 1'6" Sewers.	Feet run. 190	Feet run. 190	Feet run. 190	Feet run. 190	Feet run. 190
12" Pipe Drains.	Feet run. 190	Feet run. 190	Feet run. 190	Feet run. 190	Feet run. 190
9" Pipe Drains.	Feet run. 190	Feet run. 190	Feet run. 190	Feet run. 190	Feet run. 190
6" Pipe Drains.	Feet run. 190	Feet run. 190	Feet run. 190	Feet run. 190	Feet run. 190
4" Pipe Drains.	Feet run. 190	Feet run. 190	Feet run. 190	Feet run. 190	Feet run. 190
Manholes.	No. 7	No. 20	No. 10	No. 30	No. 67
Yard gullies.	No. 33	No. 17	No. 72	No. 72	No. 194

Cadastral Office.

86 official measurements of new land lots have been attended during the month and fifty reports as to boundary stones have been made to the various Consulates.

Survey Works.

The Cadastral survey of the Northern District is being proceeded with. 48 new lots have been surveyed in all the Districts and various surveys made for road widenings and extensions mostly in the Western District.

A route survey (about eleven miles in length) has been made from the present termination of Hungjao Road to the Hills (Zo-se) with a view to preparing estimates for the acquisition of the land and the forming of the road, etc.

Miscellaneous.

The average number of labourers employed during the month exclusive of contract work has been 2,234 as against 2,617 during January 1903.

CHARLES MAYNE,
Engineer & Surveyor.

The following documents are ordered for publication:—

Proposed New Land Regulation. VI. C. :—Having reference to the draft of this proposed addition to the Land Regulations published with the Minutes of 30th December, which, as the result of representations made to the Council has since received further consideration by a Committee specially appointed for that purpose, the following amended draft has now been finally approved for submission to the Ratepayers at the meeting to be held on 15th proximo.

Proposed New Land Regulation.

No VI. C. :—When the Council shall have acquired any land for the purpose of making new roads or of extending existing roads, the Council, before proceeding to make up any new road (which expression shall include an extension of an existing road) over such land, shall give notice to the foreign renters of the land fronting, joining or abutting on such proposed new road of their

intention to make up such road and shall forthwith cause plans and sections to be prepared of such new road and of any structural works intended to be executed in connection therewith together with an estimate of the cost of levelling, paving, metalling, sewerage, and completing such new road and of all structural works if any intended to be executed in connection therewith and such plans and sections and estimates shall be deposited in the office of the Surveyor of the Council and shall be open for the inspection of the foreign renters of the lands immediately fronting, joining or abutting on such new road and such foreign renters shall for the period of three months after the giving of such notice have the right to protest in writing and in person or proxy to appear and bring evidence before the Council to show cause why such proposed new road shall not be made and the Council shall hear and decide such matter.

After the said period of three months shall have elapsed and in case such protest (if any) be over-ruled the Council may four months after the giving of such notice and within one year after the giving of such notice, proceed to level, pave, metal, sewer, and complete such new road and the structural works if any intended to be executed in connection therewith and not more than two-thirds of the total cost and expenses incurred by the Council in so doing shall be paid by the persons who shall at the time of the giving of such notice be or who shall afterwards become the foreign renters of the lands immediately fronting, joining or abutting on such new road in such proportion as is settled by the Council or in case of dispute by the Land Commissioners, if appeal be made to them within three months, regard being had in settling the apportionment not only to frontage but also to the greater or less degree of benefit to be derived by any premises from such road and works.

Where the Council have incurred expenses for the repayment whereof or any part whereof any foreign renter is made

liable under this Regulation in respect of any premises such expenses may be recovered from any person who is the owner of such premises when the works are completed for which such expenses have been incurred and until recovery of such expenses the same shall be a charge on such premises and such charge may be enforced against the owner of the premises for the time being and in all cases where it may be necessary to recover such share of such costs and expenses from any foreign renter the certificate of the Council or if the matter is referred to the Land Commissioners the certificate of such Land Commissioners shall be conclusive evidence as to the amount payable by such foreign renter.

[Note:—The Special Committee charged with the final revision of the above draft was composed of the Chairman of the Finance, and Works Committees of the Council and Messrs. White-Cooper and Lester representing the interests of landowners and others concerned.]

Public Garden Reclamation Scheme:—The attention of the Council having been directed to the necessity for enlarging the Public Garden and this question being in great measure dependant upon that of River Conservancy, it was decided in November last to take the best expert opinion available as to the effect of the proposed reclamation scheme on the river and bund-line, together with advice as to the best scientific treatment of the mouth of the Soochow Creek from a Conservancy point of view. The following report by Mr. de Rijke is the result. The Council, holding the view that under present conditions no immediate probability exists of the Whangpoo Conservancy work being undertaken by the Bond provided for in the Peking Protocol of 1901, considers it advisable that the Public Garden reclamation Scheme be undertaken as soon as possible, with the co-operation of the Harbour authorities. A recommendation to the incoming Council will be made in this sense.

Amsterdam, Holland, 11th January 1904.

Sir,—In reference to your letter dated Shanghai 13th November, 1903, about an enlargement of the Public Garden on the bund, as desired by the Shanghai Municipal Council, I beg to say that this subject has had my serious consideration, as will be shown by the report which I have the honour to send you herewith.

The maps I received together with a drawing of cross sections referring to the smaller plan of bunding will follow soon.

I remain,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

JOH. DE RIJKE,

Hydr. Engr.

J. O. BLAND Esq.,
Secretary, Municipal Council.
Shanghai.

Plan of enlargement of the Public Garden at Shanghai, at the mouth of the Soochow Creek.

The plan in contemplation by the Shanghai Municipal Council is to reclaim for the garden extension a portion of the ground dry at low tide on that side, or right side, of the mouth of the Soochow Creek.

On a map, scale 1 : 600, the new bund-line is shown by a black dotted line.

The extension amounts to about 5,180 square yards.

On the same map is shown another and much larger plan of bunding made by the Coast Inspector, Mr. W. F. Tyler and dated September 1902. This would enlarge the garden with over 9,000 sq. yards of ground. The smaller plan seems not to include any dredging in the creek's mouth.

A sounding map on the same scale shows the depth of the channel and the shallows of the creek up to the second bridge.

The above plans were sent to me with a letter from Mr. Blain, the Secretary of the Municipal Council, dated Shanghai, 12th November, 1903, and besides some further explanation on the subject in a letter to Mr. Bland from the Municipal Engineer, Mr. Ch. Mayne.

The letter says that the Municipal Council desires my views generally on the most desirable treatment of the mouth of the creek from a conservancy point of view, and more especially to receive my opinion in regard to the two suggested lines of bunding.

In Mr. Mayne's letter I find:—

...., that the black dotted line shows the extent of high land which the Council wish to have included in the Public Garden area without delay.... and whether this could be temporarily done without damage to the river pending the carrying out of Mr. Tyler's line, or.... etc.

The smaller plan of bunding.—"From a conservancy point of view," as the Secretary's letter says, may mean either with regard to the river conservancy, or with regard to a possible improvement of the Soochow Creek, or with regard to both these waterways.

With regard to the River.—I declare that there is no objection, and that I think it impossible that there can be raised any objection against a bund-line as indicated by the black dotted line on the map.

*With regard to the Soochow Creek:—*That the creek is in course of silting up is plain enough; any additional impeding of the muddy stream would certainly and at once cause an extra silting along the creek.

Of the tidal stream the flood-currents are the most important; usually they are seen running when the water-level is from 3. to 8 ft. above datum, or lowest level.

A bundwall along the black dotted line would intercept a small part of the cross-sectional area of the mouth; up to 8 ft. by datum as follows:

At the end, or at 50 ft. from the south end of the garden bridge, 800 sq. ft. over a length of 10 ft. is 72,000 cub. ft.

At 400 ft. from the bridge 450 sq. ft. over a length of 15 ft. is 67,500 " "

At 210 feet from the bridge 240 sq. feet over a length of 20 ft. is 48,000 " "

Together 187,500 " "

Compensation for this impediment must be found by excavating and dredging the channel on the opposite or left side, and this dredging should be done before the bunding.

In the accompanying drawing of cross-section No. 1, 2, and 3, is shown the channel as improved by the dredging, which amounts to:

No. 1 about 700 sq. feet,
90 feet long..... 63,000 cub. feet.

No. 2 about 500 sq. feet,
150 feet long..... 75,000 " "

No. 3 about 340 sq. feet,
200 feet long 68,000 " "

Together 206,000 " "

or 7,670 cub. yards as measured in situ.

Because of the so much lower level the 700 sq. feet on the left side of No. 1 will count more for the stream than the 800 sq. feet cut-off on the right side.

An allowance must be made for "profile" dredging and also for maintaining the depth until the new bundwall is completed, in this situation I say together 100 per cent. Total amount of dredging work thus $2 \times 7670 = 15340$ —cub. yards.

In this way I am convinced that the mouth would be somewhat better than it was and that the alteration could not cause the least damage to the waterway along the creek.

The most desirable treatment of the mouth of the Creek from a Conservancy point of view...... of the mouth of the creek, the letter says:—

*With regard to the Hwangpoo River:—*There has been a time that the Soochow Creek was an important tributary and a great help for the stream of the main river from there downward, but at the same time the creek then was damaging the river locally by drawing out farther and farther the Pootung point opposite and causing the whirling pool in the middle of the stream. The mouth of the creek then was a deal wider than it is now.

In its present condition the value of the creek as a store for the rivers tidewater and to supply landwater is reduced to but little; at about the same rate has decreased the damaging effect of the creek on the Pootung point.

That this point still continues to grow out more or less is mainly caused by the growing obstructions in the lower parts of the river and by the consequent decrease of the tidal stream generally.

The creek itself remaining in its present state, which means worse and worse in the future. I dare say that with regard to the main river it does not matter much what is done with the creek's mouth, or whether the smaller or the larger plan of bunding be carried out.

*Treatment of the Mouth with regard to the Soochow Creek as a waterway:—*The channel outside the garden bridge is taken as the mouth of the creek.

The following average figures are taken from the sounding map:—

A. averages of 4 cross-sections in the mouth.

B. averages of 6 cross-sections between the garden bridge and the next one, the Chapoo Road bridge.

A B		The channel.		
3,540	feet	Cross Sec. area.	At 8 feet + Datum.	
2,208				
526	feet	Width.	At 3 feet + Datum.	
301				
1,386	feet	Cross Sec. area.	At 3 feet + Datum.	
1,100				
250	feet	Width.	At 6 feet + Datum level.	
184				
850	feet	Cross Sec. area.	At 6 feet + Datum.	
657				
137	feet	Width.	At 6 feet + Datum.	
116				
170	feet	Cross Sec. area.	At 6 feet + Datum.	
140				
83	feet	Width.	At 6 feet + Datum.	
62				

These figures show plainly that the capacity of the channel in the mouth is quite sufficient for the channel inside the garden bridge.

The capacity of the stream in the mouth depends on that along the creek above it, not the reverse.

Supposing the creek farther upward not to be in a better condition (probably it is worse), I dare say:

That an improvement of the mouth of the creek would not to any degree improve the waterway of the course itself, and

That neither the smaller nor the larger plan of bunding could do harm to the creek in its present condition.

*Mr. Tyler's Plan:—*I do not see any technical objection against Mr. Tyler's line of bunding, provided a new channel is made before building the wall.

The plan has the advantage that it would enlarge the garden with over 9000 sq.

yards of ground against but 5180 sq yards by the smaller plan. But the cost of the wall, running through the middle of the channel, would be considerably greater.

Mr. Tyler's plan is at the same time a plan of regulation of the mouth; it includes an improved channel of much greater capacity than the present one, or than the improved channel I find necessary for the smaller plan of bunding. This is shown by the cross-sections of the channel in the mouth at Datum level, see table.

Cross-Section.

	No. 1	No. 2	No. 3	No. 4
	feet	feet	feet	feet
Present Condition ...	827	755	908	912
Improved Channel for smaller plan of bunding.....	1375	1120	1100	912

Improved Channel as in Mr. Tyler's plan 3285 2200 1593 1200
I am not at all sure that without some dredging it would be possible afterwards to maintain the channel I propose for the smaller plan of bunding, and certainly not after a few years further deterioration of the creek.

I understand that Mr. Tyler's channel would require 875,000 cub. ft., or say 32,400 cub. yards of dredging as measured in situ.

For the smaller plan I find that this should be about 7,630 cub. yards, and as it is highly probable that the stream of the creek will not be able even to maintain the smaller channel, it is doubly certain that the larger one would not hold out long.

It is possible, however, that Mr. Tyler's plan of regulating the mouth would fit in well if connected with a plan of improvement of the creek itself, but on this score subject the Council does not express itself.

No doubt, the Soochow Creek has become a very important waterway, but it is also a fact that whilst growing in importance year by year, it has at the same time grown, and is still growing worse and worse by silting.

This waterway has been treated all the time as if it were only an ordinary drain canal and not a tidal stream of muddy water as it really is. The settling of mud along its course from various causes has been very much aggravated by a number of bridges successively built across it.

From the Public Garden upwards there are not less than eight bridges over a distance of 1,700 yards, and every one of these resting on numbers of piles each curtailing the stream.

It seems to me impossible properly to improve, or rather to restore, the stream in this course except in a radical way; and as this would require quite a large amount of money, which I think certainly not available now, I believe that for the present it must be left as an open question.

Now the treatment of the Soochow Creek having to be left for the present as an open question, I think it advisable to leave the final treatment of its mouth in the same pendency, and meanwhile carry out the smaller plan of bunding in the manner as described above.

Restoration of the stream along the Soochow Creek.—By natural causes and by tide killing in various ways, see my river report of January 1898, §§ 23 and 29, the stream along the creek is in course of dying out.

In the interest of Shanghai and its trade inland this cannot at all be permitted to go on indefinitely. If not so now already, a radical restoration of the stream must soon become a burning question for the Shanghai authorities.

Therefore I consider it worth our while here to say what probably such a restoration would mean.

Rebuilding the bridges.—The lower section of the creek where the floodtide runs up, i.e. the stream through the town

of Shanghai is of course the dirtiest, and here is the tendency of the water to settle by far the greatest. There are the bridges so badly at work in killing the stream, and the only remedy against this evil would be to reconstruct the bridges, or to build new ones having spans of say at least 150 ft. in the middle.

Dredging.—Excavating the stream-bed and dredging the channel to a proper depth and width as may be found desirable.

Fixing the borders.—Fixing the borders fallen, or not falling away and preventing by all means a d m s u r e s any further caving of shores and concaves.

Drawing landwater.—Once, very many years ago, quite a quantity of water was flowing down along the creek from the lagoons and marshes west of Shanghai, which, connected with each other, form quite an extensive reservoir of clear fresh water.

The nearest lagoon, the Sitai, is less than 30 miles from Shanghai as the crow flies, and at some 10 miles to the south of the main course of the creek.

At present I believe almost all the landwater from this source flows down into the upper Huangpoo above Soongkong.

Except the expense I do not see anything against restoring the older condition, viz., that of leading along the creek a fair supply of water from the lagoons. No doubt that in this way the capacity of the stream along the creek could be much increased, but besides the stream would become much less turbid all the way down to the mouth.

At the same time such a radical restoration of the Soochow Creek, as suggested above, would benefit the river below Shanghai.

Conclusion.—In conclusion my advice is to carry out the enlargement of the Public Garden according to the smaller plan of bunding and in the way indicated, and to consider this work as pending a general restoration of the Soochow Creek; not its mouth, which separately is of no account from a conservancy point of view.

A radical and therefore expensive restoration will, I fear, take time for the authorities to decide upon, but for the present I would recommend the Municipal Council spending a trifle, say some 200 or 300 Taels, in placing a tide-gauge with a benchmark in a suitable place in the nearest of the lagoons and connecting this with the gauge in the river at Shanghai by a careful leveling. Placing also some benchmarks by the way along the creek, would be still better.

A leveling would be the first thing required to investigate a plan of restoration. Arnhem, Holland, 11th January 1904.

JOH. DE RIJKE,

Hydr. Engr.

To The Municipal Council, Shanghai.

THE SHANGHAI LAND INVESTMENT CO., LD.

The shareholders of this Company held their annual meeting on Tuesday afternoon, at the Offices, No. 2, Yuenming-yuen Road. There were present:—Sir Charles J. Dudgeon (Chairman), Messrs. J. M. Young, H. R. Kinnear, and C. W. Wrightson (Directors), Messrs. H. Snethlage, C. D. Kerr, P. F. Lavers, J. J. Chollot, W. A. Railton, G. H. Purcell, P. Macgregor Grant, Geo. Jamieson, F. Anderson, A. E. Allen, H. Bridges, Chun Bing-nim, H. P. Clarke, W. D. Little, Sia Sze-nai, and W. A. C. Platt (representing 1,106 votes).

The first resolution was one appointing Mr. E. C. Ozorio secretary to the meeting.

The report and accounts, already published, were taken as read.

The Chairman, moving the adoption of them, said: The accounts, I am sure, will have been received by you with much satisfaction, and they fully bear out what was said by the Chairman at our last meeting as to the ability of the Company to profitably employ the increased capital sanctioned by you in June 1902. With regard to this new issue of shares, the Chairman at the last meeting said that the question of premium on such issue would be dealt with in the accounts which are now before you; that premium, you will see, amounts to some Tls. 390,000 and, as stated in the Report, the proposal of your Directors is to transfer the amount to the credit of Reserve, bringing the balance of that account, including the proposed transfer from Profit and Loss Account, to the substantial figure of Tls. 800,000.

With regard to the Working Account, I do not think that much comment is necessary. Salaries, you will have observed, show an increase over 1902 of some Tls. 3,000, an increase which you will readily understand, in view of the Company's extended operations—an extension which has resulted in our being able to show an increase of working profit, as compared with the previous year, of some Tls. 112,000.

In Profit and Loss Account is included a sum of Tls. 390,000 earned on the sale of the Astor House property, a sale the prudence of which you will no doubt endorse. On the question of sales of property, the Report informs you that we have also sold the Bund portion of the Jinkee Estate; we are sorry to part with so old a friend, and we did not do so without most careful consideration, such consideration bringing us to the conclusion that while we could only develop the property with moderate advantage to the Company, the profit derived from its sale would enable us to profitably develop our properties elsewhere.

You will notice that from the balance of Profit and Loss Account, your Directors propose a transfer of Tls. 150,000 to Reserve Fund Special Account, a fund, which as you are aware, is for the purpose of equalisation of dividends, bringing the balance of that account up to an amount of Tls. 167,000, or equal to something over 6 per cent on the Share Capital. Seeing the present turmoil of affairs in the Far East, your Directors have no doubt that you will endorse their policy of strengthening the Company's reserves in every possible way.

The cost of our properties, which you understand is actual cost plus interest on undeveloped portions, stands practically, in the aggregate, the same as in the previous account; No. 1 Estate is written down in value through the Astor House sale, while No. 2 Estate—the Chwang Hong property—shows an increased cost of some Tls. 160,000 spent upon its development. In response to the suggestion made at our last meeting, there is published with the report a short statement of the Company's properties, which will enable shareholders to locate them.

Our Mortgages have increased by some Tls. 400,000 as compared with 1902, standing now at Tls. 1,821,000, which sum I may state is amply covered.

The Chairman's invitation to shareholders to ask for any further information they desired was not accepted by any, and when Mr. J. M. Young seconded his motion, it was carried unanimously.

Sir Charles Dudgeon proposed, and Mr. Wrightson seconded, that the directors be authorised to pay a final dividend for the year 1903 of six per cent on the

paid-up capital and a bonus of Tls. 2 per share to shareholders on the register at this date.

Mr. C. W. Wrightson, a retiring director, was unanimously re-elected, on the proposition of Mr. P. F. Lavers, seconded by Mr. C. D. Kerr.

Mr. G. R. Wingrove, the retiring auditor, was also re-elected, the movers being Mr. Geo. Jamieson and Mr. P. Macgregor Grant.

THE SHANGHAI PULP AND PAPER COMPANY, LD.

Annual Meeting.

The Annual Meeting of the Shareholders in the above Company was held at No. 9, Kiukiang Road, at 4 p.m. on the 23rd inst. The following gentlemen were present:—Messrs. George Racine (Chairman), Ch. R. Wehrung, Paul Brunat, C. E. Roach, and Chu Pao-san (Directors) and Messrs. J. J. Chollot, A. C. Aeppli, Carl O. Bojesen, P. Oudin, and F. Salinger.

The notice convening the meeting having been read, the Chairman said:—

Gentlemen,—The report and accounts which have been in your hands for some time will no doubt be taken as read, and I feel sure they will be received by the shareholders with much satisfaction, as it shows an increase in the earnings of Tls. 16,072.63 over the previous year. Detailed statements of accounts for the year are on the table for your inspection, but before asking you to pass the same I wish to make a few general remarks. During the year the Mill has been running regularly day and night, and I am pleased to say continues to be kept in perfect order. During the year we manufactured Tls. 430,069.40 worth of paper, all of which has been sold and paid for. The Mill still has to contend with much competition from Japan and Germany, but notwithstanding the prices made by these countries, our new Straw Plant, recently started, will enable us to meet any competition we may have. The purchasing of raw material has greatly improved since our last meeting, and we have every reason to believe the prices will further decline, as the natives are becoming more accustomed to the requirements of our Mill. We have many more merchants to purchase from than formerly.

You will notice we have placed Tls. 10,000.00 to Reserve Account; we feel sure you will approve our action, as it is the only proper method to pursue in handling a manufacturing industry. It is difficult to positively state what the prospects of our Company are, but if the result of the past and present working is a guide, we have every reason to expect more profits for 1904 than ever before. If any shareholder has any question to ask, I would be pleased to answer him.

In answer to a question from one of the shareholders as to the further outlook of the Company, Mr. Roach said:—

Gentlemen,—I might say we have made a favourable start for 1904, having earned Tls. 8,000.00 more than in 1903 for the same period. We have recently started our Straw Plant, which is working very well. How much more we should earn by the addition to our Mill, I am not at present able to state, as it has only been running for a short time, and like all new plants, must run rather slowly to begin with. We have large quantities of pulp on hand which have been paid for at a very favourable rate of exchange. This enables us to have a reserve stock of raw material, so that at no time can the native merchant dictate prices to us. During the past few months our superintendent and all the various officers have invested all their savings in the Company. This fact

is quite important for you to learn, as it clearly shows the parties who know all the minute details of the Company have confidence in the future of it, and are as much interested in its success as any shareholder. I do not wish to make any positive promise in regard to the increase of profits for 1904, believing from the remarks made by our Chairman, and from the facts I have stated, you should be able to judge for yourselves. Every economy is practise! at the Mill, and I have every reason to believe the future is favourable.

It was then proposed by Mr. Ch. R. Wehrung, seconded by Mr. G. Racine, and carried unanimously:—That at the report and accounts as presented be accepted and passed.

Mr. Roach proposed, Mr. Paul Brunat seconded, and it was carried nem. con.:—That the directors be authorised to pay a final dividend of 5 per cent for 1903 on the paid-up capital to shareholders registered at this date, making 10 per cent for the year.

Mr. Racine proposed, Mr. E. Aeppli seconded, and it was carried unanimously:—That Mr. Paul Brunat be elected a member of the board of directors, to take the place of Mr. Augustin.

It was proposed by Mr. Ch. R. Wehrung, seconded by Mr. J. J. Chollot, and carried unanimously:—That Mr. Chu Pao-san be re-elected a member of the board of directors.

Mr. Paul Brunat proposed, Mr. Chu Pao-san seconded, and it was carried nem. con.:—That Mr. George D. Scott be re-elected Auditor.

Mr. Roach—There is one thing more I should like to mention, and that is that we have recently been able to get the likin taken off our paper. We have had a big fight to get it remitted, but now we have succeeded. This ought to help us very much during the coming year.

The meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to the directors, proposed by Mr. F. Salinger and seconded by Mr. Aeppli.

THE ASSOCIATION OF BRITISH COLONIALS IN THE FAR EAST.

COMMITTEE'S REPORT 1903.

The Committee have much pleasure in presenting to the members the first Annual Report of the Association.

Membership.—The Association has started its first year with a roll of 63 members, 40 of whom have paid their subscriptions.

We regret having to report the loss of two members—Messrs. J. Keenan and W. W. Riehe—by death, during the past year; both of these members evinced great interest in the welfare of the Association.

Income and Expenditure.—The income for the past year was \$280.00 and the expenditure \$53.18 leaving a balance of \$226.82 to the credit of the Association.

Association Dinner.—The Association held its inaugural dinner in the Masonic Club on 21st March last, at which 60 members and their guests attended. It proved a most pleasant and enjoyable gathering, and great hopes were entertained that the new Association would prove a welcome addition to the already existing societies in Shanghai.

General.—There have not been any demands upon the Association for financial assistance during the past year, either for or on account of any of its members, or on account of any other distressed Colonial, and we hope that this is because there has not been any occasion for assistance. The Committee, while they are on the alert for cases meriting attention, are not of course able to obtain authentic information of every case which may arise, and they

have therefore to request that each member will from time to time report such matters and cases as shall come under his notice and in his opinion demand attention.

W. J. TURNBULL,
Hon. Secretary.

THE HONGKONG RACES.

First Day, Tuesday, 23rd February, 1904.

1.—THE WONG-NEI-CHONG STAKES.—Half a mile.

The Pals' p.b. Chuntaqua 1
Mr. John Peel's i.-g. Ca Canny 2
" Buxey's b. Pink Rose 3
Time, 59 3-5 secs.

2.—THE MAIDEN STAKES.—Once round.

Mr. F. B. Marshall's b. Discovery 1
" Buxey's cr. La France Rose 2
" John Peel's c. Royal 3
Time, 1 min. 54 2-5 secs.

3.—THE VALLEY STAKES.—Three-quarters of a mile.

Mr. Dowling's g. Panjandrum 1
" F. B. Marshall's w. Disclosure 2
" C. H. Ross's d. Ben Roy 3
Time, 1 min. 33 1-5 secs.

4.—THE VICTORIA STAKES.—One mile.

The Pals' g. Huron (late Teaboy) 1
Mr. Wingard's roan Algerine 2
" John Peel's c. Set 3
Time, 2 mins. 7 1-5 secs.

5.—FOOCHOW CUP.—For Walers.—Three-quarters of a mile.

Mr. Godfrey Master's c. Remnant 1
" Johnstone's g. Runaway Girl 2
The Pals' b. Dandy 3
Time, 1 min. 23 1-5 secs.

6.—THE HONGKONG DERBY.—One mile and a-half.

Mr. Buxey's g. Coronet Rose 1
" Ellis Kadoorie's g. Chieftain 2
" J. H. Lewis's c. Aladdin 3
Time, 3 mins. 16 1-5 secs.

7.—THE HONGKONG CLUB CUP.—One mile and a-half.

Mr. John Peel's spd. w. Polka 1
" Wingard's g. Vancouver 2
" Buxey's c. Rare Rose 3
Time, 3 mins. 14 secs.

8.—THE CHINESE CLUB CUP.—From the Two-mile Post Once Round and In.

Mr. A. V. Apear's b. Manila 1
" Darius' blk. Eclipse 2
" J. H. Lewis's g. Stalling 3
Time, 2 mins. 22 3-5 secs.

9.—THE LUSITANO CUP.—One mile.

Mr. Buxey's br. Liberty Rose 1
" John Peel's mbl. g. Rex 2
" Armand's c. Modesty 3
Time, 2 mins. 10 2-5 secs.

10.—THE ENCOURAGEMENT STAKES.—Five furlongs.

Mr. Buxey's g. Marechal Niel Rose 1
" John Peel's i.-g. Ca Canny 2
" Canada's br. Tai Yat 3
Time, 1 min. 15 2-5 secs.

Second Day, Wednesday, 24th February, 1904.

1.—THE FLYAWAY STAKES.—Five Furlongs.

Mr. Buxey's g. Coronet Rose 1
" John Peel's c. Royal 2
" Ellis Kadoorie's g. Chieftain 3
Time, 1 min. 16 2-5 secs.

2.—THE EXCHANGE PLATE.—From the Two-mile Post Once Round and In.

Mr. John Peel's c. Set 1
" Wingard's roan Algerine 2
" G. H. Potts' c. Rebel King 3
Time, 2 mins. 18 3-5 secs.

- 3.—THE PROFESSIONAL CUP.—For Walers.
—One mile.
Mr. Johnston's g. Runaway Girl 1
" Godfrey Master's c. Remnant 2
The Pals' b. Dandy 3
Time, 1 min. 52 1-5 secs.
- 4.—THE GERMAN CUP.—One mile and a quarter.
Mr. Paul's c. Fiscal 1
" Meifoo's d. Standard 2
" A. Babbington's w. Rocket 3
Time, 2 mins. 42 2-5 secs.
- 5.—THE GARRISON CUP.—From the Two-mile Post Once Round and In.
Mr. Buxey's g. Coronet Rose 1
" John Peel's c. Royal 2
Two run.—Time, 2 mins. 23 2-5 secs.
- 6.—THE JOCKEY CUP.—Once Round.
Mr. John Peel's t.-g. Ca Canny 1
" Medico's g. Culex 2
" Buxey's b. Pink Rose 3
Time, 1 min. 58 secs.
- 7.—THE CHALLENGE CUP.—One Mile and three-quarters.
Mr. John Peel's spd. w. Polka 1
" G. H. Potts' c. Rebel King 2
" G. H. Potts' br. Pandur 3
Time, 3 mins. 48 secs.
- 8.—THE "BLAKE" CHALLENGE CUP.—One Mile.
Mr. Buxey's g. Marechal Niel Rose 1
The Pals' pbd. Obuntqua 2
Mr. Darius' blk. Eclipse 3
Time, 2 mins. 8 2-5 secs.
- 9.—THE NAVY CUP.—One mile and a quarter.
Mr. Buxey's cr. La France Rose 1
" Ellis Kadoorie's g. eftain 2
" J. H. Lewis's c. Aladdin 3*
" John Peel's mbl. g. R-x 3*
*Dead heat.—Time, 2 mins. 46 2-5 secs.
- 10.—THE RACING STAKES.—Three-quarters of a Mile.
Mr. F. B. Marshall's w. Disclosure 1
" Meifoo's d. Standard 2
Major Radcliff's br. Arranapogue 3
Time, 1 min. 33 2-5 secs.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE HOUSEBOAT QUESTION.

To the Editor of the

"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—A Notification appears in your yesterday's issue to the effect that all the foreign-owned house-boats are to be cleared away from their present places in the Soochow Creek on a certain date next month, on the unreasonable, I think, supposition that there is no longer any room for them where they are now lying moored, and have been so for many years past, and the reason for this arbitrary proceeding by the harbour office is supposed to be the "congestion of traffic."

I would like to point out, however, to anyone not clearly understanding the question, that this supposition of "congestion of the traffic" is an entire fallacy with regard to the true sense of its meaning. Let anyone go into the Chinese Public Garden and look at the creek during low tides and he will see a very narrow and shallow stream hardly more than sufficient in width to allow of two boats passing each other at that state of the tide, where some years ago there was quite sufficient room for several boats to go abreast at any one time in this particular part of the creek opposite the garden, and the cause of all this, as we know, being the silting up year after year and forming high and dry banks; in fact, one half of the creek has now become nearly useless for much traffic, and who is to blame for this condition? Surely the Customs authorities, who claim to be the representatives of the conservancy board, and to

their failing in taking the necessary steps to have the creek dredged, and put in the same condition as found years ago. It is quite clear if this work was now taken in hand as it ought to be, there would no longer be any "congestion" of traffic but plenty of room, and a good deal to spare, for all foreign-owned house-boats to remain where they are now. They could be moored, every one of them, along the slope of the Chinese Garden if that high mud bank was done away with that is now remaining an eye-sore where it exists at present. This bank could easily be removed at only small cost, and a very fine mooring place could then be made for all the foreign house-boats in the creek if restored to its usual condition for traffic. Perhaps such cost could be defrayed equally between the Customs authorities and the boat-owners. I think the time has come when something might be done in the way of raising funds, and consulting with the harbour office without any further delay.

There appears to me to be the legal question, also, as to whether the harbour office has the power of forcibly removing the boats from their present positions. Are foreigners of this International Settlement not to be granted the same right and privileges as the natives in claiming peaceful possession and ownership of their property whether on land or waterways within the Municipal Settlements? The so-called congestion of traffic is a very lame excuse for the removal of the boats, and what are we to say then about our main thoroughfares and the congestion of traffic as now seen daily? Have the custodians of our roads the power in their own hands to order away all enormously bulky loads carried by wheelbarrows, much to the inconvenience of foreigners generally? I would advise fighting this question out, whether our boats can be removed without our consent. The congestion of traffic is not a proper plea for the harbour office so long as the creek remains in its present bad state, and supposing the boats to be removed to the place indicated in the Notification, would it not be more than likely that, in the absence of any police supervision in that far distance up the creek, the boats would soon be cleared, by thieves, of all gear and interior fittings or perhaps by the lowdahs themselves or their friends?

The question, however, seriously considered is, by what right can the harbour office demand removal of our boats either legally or morally in the way they are now seeking to do this without the owners' consent? I should be glad to hear your views, Mr. Editor, on this important question to those concerned.

Under the Land Regulations are we not entitled to the same privileges as the native-owned boats in being allowed to have our boats lying in the same creek and at the same place as they are?

Apologising for the large space taken up with this matter, and thanking you in anticipation.

I am, etc.,

RATEPAYER.

24th February.

THE EDUCATIONAL QUESTION.

To the Editor of the

"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—In these stirring and exciting times it is not likely that educational questions will receive much attention, but I shall be obliged if you will spare me space in your correspondence column

to explain a point not clearly expressed, apparently, in my former letter. The Public School would be classed in England as a "higher grade board-school." But if the standard of education is to be raised to that of the University Local Examinations, it is no longer an elementary, but a secondary school. Other schools in Shanghai, subsidised by Municipal funds, are also elementary, I believe.

My contention is that in spending Tls. 13,000 on the Public School, with its proposed new curriculum, the Municipal Council has begun to subsidise higher education, a course which seems objectionable for three reasons:—

(1) It is not fair to the ratepayer, who—rightly or wrongly—decides to send his children to healthier climates for secondary education.

(2) It is not fair to private schools, in and outside Shanghai, that provide higher education (not elementary) and exist on tuition fees.

(3) It is contrary to the principles underlying our educational system in England, where secondary schools are maintained by other than ratepayers' subscriptions.

I am, etc.,

PEDAGOGUS.

22nd February.

NOTES ON NATIVE AFFAIRS.

A Reported Skirmish between Chinese and Russians.

The "Universal Gazette" hears that a body of Russian troops has come to blows with a Chinese force belonging to General Ma Yü-k'un's command, outside Shanhai-kuan and on the Hsinmintun Railway, the Russians being the aggressors. The same paper further states that General Ma Yü-k'un has himself gone to the scene of disturbance for reinforcements.

Preparing for a Long Siege.

The "Sinwenpao" learns from a Chefoo telegram that the Russian military authorities at Vladivostok have issued a proclamation ordering a large number of the inhabitants of that port to leave owing to the limited quantity of grain stored there. It is believed that the Russians are expecting to undergo a protracted siege at Vladivostok and are therefore taking steps to send away all useless and superfluous people from the port before it becomes too late.

Patriotic Princes.

A Peking dispatch to hand states that the enlightened Prince Su has asked permission from the Throne to be allowed to command the foreign-modelled Manchu Banner troops now being organised by Tieh Liang, Vice-President of the Board of War, of whom it is estimated there will be 25,000 well-armed and well-equipped men by the middle of March next ready for active service. The Mongol Prince ef Kharachin, also an enlightened person and the first Mongol Prince within two centuries who has been to Shanghai and southern ports, has also asked to be allowed to lead his Mongol tribesman (15,000 strong) to reinforce General Ma Yü-k'un's forces on the western banks of the Liao river in Lower Manchuria.

The Mixed Court Magistracy.

We now learn that the person arbitrarily selected by the Manchu Provincial Treasurer at Soochow to take Mr. Kuan Chun's place at the Mixed Court is a certain obscure expert.

ant sub-prefect of the name of Wang. We further learn from a rumour in mandarin circles that the Consular Body has already protested, and very rightly, to Viceroy Wei at Nanking against such a summary way of removing a bright and promising young officer like Mr. Kuan Chun. But since an appointment has apparently been already made from Soochow which Mr. Kuan Chun, from his own personal point of view, can hardly dispute, there is a Chinese remedy ready to hand, which has many precedents in mandarin circles. That is, if Mr. Wang comes to Shanghai, owing to his being quite new to the duties of the post, he shall be asked to take up the work of Assistant Magistrate, an individual much needed at the Mixed Court, and in a probationary character "prove the metal he is made of." This is quite the usual thing in mandarin circles, and we recommend the method to the Consular Body, that is to say, if the high officials at Nanking and Soochow persist in ignoring the reported protest.

Mounted Bandits versus Russians in Manchuria.

A Tientsin dispatch states that it is reported from Moukden that the mounted bandits are being constantly reinforced by hitherto law-abiding farmers and traders, so bitter is the hostility shown towards Russians in Manchuria now that there seems to be a chance of procuring revenge against them with the anticipated advent of the Japanese. It is also further reported that the mounted bandits—who now call themselves patriots—have begun to systematically cut down telegraph lines and destroy the poles and that already the lines between Liaoyang and Kaiping; between Tashihchiao and Harbin; and between Kaiyuan and Taoliachou (places in Central and Lower Manchuria) have been cut down, while a number of Russian telegraph repairers and guards have been attacked and also killed by these roving patriots.

WAR NOTES AND NEWS.

25th February.

Another Attack on Port Arthur.

Where is the Japanese fleet and what is it doing? In the absence of definite news this is the question being asked, and it is being answered in a variety of ways. Some regard the silence as an indication of inactivity forced on the Japanese by losses in the early actions, of which the outer public has been kept in ignorance. It would be strange indeed if losses, so serious as they are made out to be, could be concealed for so long a period. A more reasonable explanation is based on the news which comes from the Russian side. Whatever their friends may say, the Russians themselves have realised that they are at a serious disadvantage on the sea in the Pacific, and they can do nothing as yet at all events but remain on the defensive under their forts at Port Arthur. In the meantime the Japanese, having gained the command of the sea, are landing their troops in Korea without molestation.

It is not strictly accurate to say there is absolutely no news of the Japanese fleet. Capt. Dewar of the C.N.S. Shengking, which arrived from the north yesterday, states that on the night of Saturday last, the fleet was seen off Chefoo, and that a Japanese torpedo boat comes into Chefoo every night

to exchange dispatches with the Japanese Consulate there. Coupling this with the report wired by our Chefoo correspondent yesterday to the effect that heavy firing has again been heard off Port Arthur, there seems reason for believing that the Russian squadron is not being left entirely unworried and unoccupied outside its chief base.

Information reached us last evening that a telegram had been received by the Russian consular authorities here to the effect that another attack had been made upon Port Arthur. It was further stated that the Japanese fleet had been repulsed and that four steamers, whether men-of-war, transports, or torpedo-boats was unknown, had been left stranded outside the port. On inquiry at the Russian consulate we were courteously informed by Mr. Kleimenow that a dispatch had been received, but that the contents were not sufficiently clear to be made fully public. The tenor was, however, that the Japanese fleet had made another assault on Port Arthur, commencing on Monday night and renewed on Tuesday night; and that they had not succeeded in their attempt. There was a vague mention of damage to six steamers but particulars were not forthcoming.

At the Japanese Consulate no news whatever had been received of a further engagement. That there has been fighting is corroborated by the report from Chefoo and the statements of Captain Dewar, but what the result has been remains a mystery for the moment. It would be singular indeed if the steamers ashore are Japanese, as that would mean that they had been run ashore to save them from sinking in the open sea. If they are large vessels they would have certainly been firing from some miles out and it is scarcely like the Japanese to run their boats aground to certain capture, even as wrecks, by their enemies.

Further information was brought by Captain Dewar in regard to the firing on the C. E. & M. S. Chingping and the German steamer Pronto in Port Arthur harbour on the night of the 10th. The Pronto was the chief sufferer, and was bombarded for no less a time than twenty minutes. Most of the shots happily flew over her, but those that struck her did considerable damage, chiefly to the masts and funnel. She has arrived at Weihaiwei with fifteen holes. The Chingping is also at Weihaiwei with nine holes in her as the result of being under Russian fire. The Pronto took 750 refugee Chinese from Dahly to Weihaiwei, but coolies were not allowed to leave, as the Russians required their services.

The Mandjour is to remain at Shanghai, but she will dismantle. The news reached us too late last night to obtain official confirmation, but we have it on reliable authority that the steering gear is to be disconnected at 8 a.m. to-day and the gunboat thus rendered incapable of offensive action. An undertaking will also be given not to take in any more coal.

Some excitement was caused yesterday morning by the passing up the river of the Chinese cruiser Nanshuin. The general conclusion was that this was one of the vessels of the Peiyang squadron, which had come to escort the Mandjour out to sea. The Nanshuin was, however, merely changing her berth in the river; she has been stationed lower down. The two cruisers from Kiangyin are not now expected. Meantime the Akitsushima has again left Woosung, and she was probably the man-of-war seen going north by the Shengking in the early morning. It will be noticed that the statement freely made

that the cruiser was waiting for munitions of war to be brought by the Austrian-Lloyd steamer Silesia is absolutely refuted by the agents for this line, who have positive knowledge that the Silesia has no munitions of war on board.

The C. N. S. Paoting, which arrived from Hakodate yesterday, reported that on Saturday last she was stopped by a Japanese warvessel off Tsushima and her papers inspected. She was then allowed to proceed. The C. N. S. Wenchow, which was at Port Arthur during the bombardment, left Moji for Shanghai yesterday.

Telegraphic communication with Europe has been greatly strengthened by the opening yesterday of the Great Northern Company's new route via Peking-Irkutsk at the same rates as apply to telegrams dispatched via Vladivostok. Telegrams intended to be sent by this route should be marked via Kiachta. During the interruption of the Vladivostok wires all messages handed to the Great Northern Company will be dispatched over these wires. The new route is considerably shorter than the old, and a map issued by the Company shows the stages clearly. From Shanghai the telegrams are forwarded to Chefoo, which sends them on to Peking. Thence there is a direct run to Irkutsk, followed by a longer run still to St. Petersburg. From St. Petersburg telegrams for Great Britain go via the station at Nystad, direct; those for France, Portugal and Spain, go by the station at Liban; and those for Germany go straight to Berlin. It is understood that the average time occupied by a message going by this route between Shanghai and Europe should not be longer than three hours. For Russian messages only the line has been opened since the 1st of January.

Shanghai is shortly to have a paper in which Russian victories and Russian ideals will be given that prominence, which it is affirmed they have not yet received. The new journal, which is to be entitled the "Shanghai Truth," is expected to make its appearance about the beginning of next month. It will be issued daily, and in order that it may be generally understood, will be printed in English.

THE NAVY LEAGUE RECREATION FUND.

	Tls.	8
Previously acknowledged	11,665	420
L. N. Lee	20	
J. Kingsmill	25	
W. G. Bayne	25	25
R. S. Jackson	25	
Certain members of the Mercantile Marine Officers' Association (handed in by A. Wood, Esq., Pilot) ...		300
Tls.	11,735	\$745

JAPAN SYMPATHETIC FUND.

There are many foreigners in China who sympathise with the Japanese in the present war. It is proposed that this sympathy should take a practical form in the shape of a fund for the support of the families of Japanese reservists, and the widows and orphans of those killed or incapacitated in the war.

We shall be very glad to receive, acknowledge, and forward any sums that may be sent to us for this purpose.

"NORTH-CHINA HERALD," Shanghai.
Amount already acknowledged \$696

F. A.	25
W. S. J.	25
C. R. B.	25
B. K. & P.	25
M. S. P.	5

Total to date...\$801

H. B. M. SUPREME COURT.

Shanghai, 24th February.

Before SIR HIRAM S. WILKINSON,
Chief Justice.

R. v. WILLIAMS.

Edward Williams was indicted on a charge of escaping from the British Consular Gaol on the 26th of November last, while undergoing a sentence of six months' hard labour.

Mr. W. A. C. Platt, Crown Advocate, appeared to prosecute.

Prisoner pleaded guilty. Since his recapture, he said, he had been ten weeks confined in a dark cell, and he had been

told by a visiting justice that the Consul had expressed the opinion that two months of such confinement was a sufficient punishment.

His Lordship said he had looked into the depositions and was of opinion that he could take a lenient view of this case. Escaping from gaol was a serious offence but not so serious as actually breaking out of prison. Justice would be satisfied by sentencing the prisoner to a month's hard labour to commence at the expiration of his present sentence, on the 11th May.

About twenty British subjects had been summoned for purposes of a jury but their services were not required.

THE MIXED COURT.

Shanghai, 24th February.

Before Mr. WANG (Asst. Magistrate), and
Mr. H. H. BRISTOW (Asst. British Assessor).

Farnham, Boyd's Hammers.

Two workmen who until recently were employed at the Old Dock, were charged with stealing two hammers from Messrs. S. C. Farnham, Boyd & Co., Ltd. Ten pawnbrokers were also brought up on the charge of receiving 104 hammers and 110 chisels, well knowing them to be stolen.

Inspector Bourke said that the pawnbrokers must have known that the hammers were stolen as they were stamped with the initials of the firm.

Mr. T. J. Rowland said that a little before Chinese New Year a tool chest was broken open and some tools taken away. The police were communicated with and they found more hammers than could possibly have been lost on this occasion. The thefts, therefore, must have gone on all the year round.

The men charged with theft said that they were allowed to take their tools home.

Mr. Rowland said that this was not true. The watchman searched the men and would arrest any who took out any tools. It was extremely difficult to stop these thefts as the men left the jetties in sampans when they stole the hammers. Witness asked that the pawnbrokers should be severely punished to deter them from accepting hammers again.

Detective-Sergeant Kingston said that the 3-lb. hammers which were worth \$1.50 had been pledged for 20 cents, and the 8 lb. hammers valued at 35 cents a pound had been pawned for 30 to 40 cents.

The two men charged with theft were sentenced to fourteen days' cage.

The pawnbrokers were fined sums ranging from \$5 to \$40 according to the number of hammers found in their possession.

SHIPPING IN HARBOUR AND AT WOOSUNG MERCHANT STEAMERS.

Co. & Ship	Ship's Name	Commander	Flag	Tonnage	Date of Arrival	Where from	Agents	Destination	Remarks
EACW	Activ	Olsen	Nor	str	867	Feb 14	Dalny	Th-rasen & Co	
EACW	Ariel	Rafen	Nor	str	994	Feb 18	Chefoo	C. M. S. N. Co	Tangku 26th instant
KLYW	Anping	Richards	Chi	str	1159	Jan 29	Chefoo	P. & O. S. N. Co.	H'kg with Mail 8th proximo
P&OB	Ballasrat	Summers	Br	str	2860	Feb 17	Hongkong	Jardine, Matheson & Co	
SHWB	Changwo	Laverie	Br	str	696	Feb 23	Japan	C. M. S. N. Co	H'kong & Canton 26th instant
KLYW	Chi-yuen	Stewart	Chi	str	1211	Feb 17	Swatow	Jardine, Matheson & Co	S'tow, H'kg, C'ton To-day
SHW	Choy-sang	Roope	Br	str	1424	Feb 15	H'kong & Swatow	Butterfield & Swire	Amoy 26th instant
CNCW	Chungking	Hopkins	Br	str	869	Feb 23	Chefoo	East-Asiatic Co	Moji To-day
PWE	Bintang	Ingemann	Dan	str	892	Feb 16	Chefoo	Jardine, Matheson & Co	Tsingtau, Chefoo To-day
HW	El Dorado	Smith	Br	str	980	Jan 26	Amoy & Swatow	C. M. S. N. Co	
CMB1	Feiching	Hoelger	Chi	str	64	Feb 18	Japan	Moller Brothers	
BLS	Frigga	Bergh	Nor	str	381	Feb 15	C'wangtao, C'foo	C. M. S. N. Co	Amoy 27th instant
KLYW	Fungshun	Gillespie	Chi	str	49	Feb 1	Gensan	C. M. S. N. Co	
7 p	Georgi	Pengam	Russ	str	637	Feb 22	Chefoo	Butterfield & Swire	
KLYB	Haeon	Wallace	Br	str	388	Feb 9	Amoy	C. M. S. N. Co	
TKDD	Hoangho	McKay	Chi	str	1385	Feb 13	Chefoo	C. M. S. N. Co	
KLYW	Hsinfung	Mackinnon	Chi	str	1027	Jan 17	Foochow	C. M. S. N. Co	Tangku 26th instant
CMB1	Hsinyu	Blethen	Ger	str	1268	Feb 17	Chinwangtao	Chinese Eng. & Ming. Co	Chinwangtao To-day
CMCW	Hsiping	Macfarlane	Ger	str	4299	Feb 22	Hongkong	Butterfield & Swire	
OWSB	Idomeneus	Riley	Br	str	1143	Feb 22	Karatsu	Butterfield & Swire	Hankow & Ports 26th instant
CKFW	Kashing	Brown	Br	str	1450	Feb 23	Hankow	C. M. S. N. Co	
KLYW	Kiangkwan	Lindstrom	Chi	str	318	Jan 19	Hankow	C. M. S. N. Co	
US	Kwangchi	Gordon	Br	str	1427	Feb 2	Hongkong	Jardine, Matheson & Co	S'tow, H'ng, C'ton 27th instant
BND	Kwong-sang	Lake	Br	str	1084	Jan 27	Hongkong	Jardine, Matheson & Co	Tientsin v. Chefoo 26th instant
SHW12	Lienshing	Young	Br	str	140	Feb 18	Hongkong, etc	Butterfield & Swire	
CNPW	Linan	Williams	Br	str	1216	Feb 18	Moji	Moller Brothers	
KLYW	Lisa	Hordahl	Swed	str	1245	Feb 20	Hongkong	Siemssen & Co.	Japan To-day
P&OB2	Loongmoon	Kalkofen	Ger	str	1882	Feb 18	Japan	Dodwell & Co., Ltd.	New York 25th instant
LS	Maeduff	Glegg	Br	str	1001	May 29	Hankow	Welchers & Co	
US	Wei-yu	Riese	Ger	str	1240	Feb 22	Moji	Butterfield & Swire	
ONW	Ningpo	Boyd	Br	str	930	Feb 18	Nagasaki	Moller Brothers	Kobe To-day
9 p	Nor	Theisen	Nor	str	1248	Jan 28	Ningpo	Butterfield & Swire	C'kiang & Wuhu To-day
WTW	Pakhoi	Meathrel	Br	str	2875	Feb 21	Hongkong	Butterfield & Swire	Japan To-day
SHW	Pakling	Conradi	Br	str	434	Feb 23	Hongkong, &c	Geddes & Co	Hankow & Ports To-day
CMCW	Paohua	Damstrom	Br	str	881	Jan 31	Swatow	Jardine, Matheson & Co	K'chow & Chefoo 28th instant
BNDW	Pechili	McClure	Chi	str	326	Jan 31	Chinwangtao	Chinese Eng. & Mining Co	
7 p	Peiping	McTaggart	Chi	str	631	Feb 13	Wenchow	C. M. S. N. Co	Wenchow v. N'po 26th instant
KLYW	Poochi	Froberg	Chi	str	1220	Feb 21	Japan	M. B. Kaisha	Kuchinotzu To-day
WTW	Ragnar	Nielsen	Nor	str	162	Feb 2	Wuhu	S. C. Farnham, Boyd & Co	
TKDW	Samshui	McDonnell	Br	str	1307	Feb 2	Hankow	Butterfield & Swire	A'y, H'kong, C'ton 28th instant
WTW	Shaoshing	Harris	Br	str	1370	Feb 22	Japan	Carlowitz & Co	
CMLW	Sithonia	Hildebrandt	Ger	str	3896	Feb 22	Japan	P. & O. S. N. Co	
P&OB2	Socotra	Benton	Br	str	1582	Oct 13	Singapore	Geo. McBain	
NDW	Stettin	Ahlbern	Br	str	667	Feb 2	Hankow	Nippon Yusen Kaisha	
7 p	Sual	Sott	Br	str	1391	Feb 5	Hankow	Osaka Shosen Kaisha	
TKDD	Tahung Maru	Yebiko	Jap	str	1316	Feb 23	Hankow	Osaka Shosen Kaisha	Hankow & Ports To-day
OSKW	Tate Maru	Yebina	Jap	str	1882	Feb 23	Hankow	Butterfield & Swire	Wuhu v. C'kiang To-day
CNCW	Tatung	Martin	Br	str	942	Jan 26	Chinkiang	C. M. S. N. Co	Yokohama 27th instant
YKDW	Toonan	Best	Chi	str	1184	Feb 14	H'kong & Swatow	Jardine, Matheson & Co	
PWE	Tungching	Selby	Br	str	1509	Dec 20	Sydney	Holliday Wise	
AUS	Victoria	Courtney	Br	str	1170	Feb 23	Hankow	Jardine, Matheson & Co	
SHW	Waishing	Davies	Br	s.v.	698	Feb 20	H'kong & Canton	Butterfield & Swire	
CNCW	Woosung	Pratt	Chi	str	1078	Feb 7	Amoy & Swatow	C. M. S. N. Co	
CMB1	Yushun								
54 Steamers									
OWSB	Ajax		US	tran	Feb 22	Ningpo			

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

(From Messrs. Noël, Murray & Co. Piece Goods Trade Report of 25th February, 1904.)

Since the date of our last Report the Native New Year holidays intervened and suspended trade entirely for a week. The annual settlement of accounts appears to have been satisfactorily arranged in most all branches of business, the only one that suffered at all heavily being Silk. Tea did well, and also Banking, while the Piece goods dealers managed to divide about a million and a half of taels, though perhaps not very evenly. Still, considering the very exceptionally trying times they went through during the last thirteen moons it is a matter for congratulation that the result was so good, and will enable the trade to be carried on, even during the depressing period at present ahead of it, with more confidence and hopefulness than would otherwise have been the case. The apprehensiveness that not unnaturally existed concerning the future course of trade on account of the political situation has been somewhat allayed by the initial successes of the JAPANESE fleet, whereby interport trade will be less liable to interruption, and but for the unfortunate presence in Port of an isolated RUSSIAN gunboat intercourse with JAPAN by the steamers of that country could be resumed. The River trade is quite unimpeded, and although the Insurance Companies are charging as much as two per cent for War risk on goods in Chinese steamers and a half per cent on ENGLISH steamers for the NORTHERN PORTS it seems to be quite unnecessary.

The market nominally opened on the 22nd inst. with a few of the usual complimentary purchases, but buyers appear to have found some difficulty in finding Importers with available cargo who were willing to sell. However, some 1,500 packages have been booked, chiefly medium makes of Grey and White Shirtings of all weights. Buyers then stopped to see what the results of the Auctions would be, and, considering Exchange was fully 5% lower when the last YUEN FONG sale took place, the prices realised this morning were distinctly satisfactory, although it must not be overlooked that the quantity was considerably reduced.

The financial position, not only here but all over CHINA, promises to be the great drawback to trade again this year. The Native Banks have been unusually late in starting business, although nominally opened, and the distribution of credits to their constituents is greatly restricted. They have found it very difficult to get in outstanding accounts and, it is said, are short fully ten lacs that should have come down from NEWCHWANG before settling day, but unfortunately the outbreak of hostilities caused such a serious drop in Exchange there it was impossible to remit. TIENTSIN is not yet out of the wood, and in spite of her seemingly growing prosperity is just as devoid of money and credit as ever, many of the old accounts carried over from 1902 being still owing to the Banks here. It is to be anticipated in consequence that business with that market will continue to be a hand to mouth one, only such goods being sent up as are required for immediate consumption and for which cash can be paid. The prospects for trade with the YANGTZE Ports are very good indeed, but for the lack of financial facilities. Shippers are ready and anxious to send goods to COREA, but there are no means of doing so at present. No doubt that will be managed when the JAPANESE steamers resume their running.

The river PEIHO is reported open unusually early and already steamers have been despatched from here, but taking only about 5,000 bales of Yarn and Piece goods, of which the former comprise the bulk. The Tugs and lighters were to have been undocked yesterday, and the steamers are expected to get up to the Bund this spring tide. Moderate supplies have already been going up via CHING-WAN-TAO.

The MANCHESTER market is firm at the slight reduction which has taken place there, but no orders are going through from this under present circumstances. After dropping to 6.94d. for MID AMERICAN Cotton has since recovered to 7.40d. EGYPTIAN has remained about steady at 9½d. The Export for this month promises to be fairly large again, it amounting to 15,000,000 yards for the two weeks ending the 19th inst.

The British Board of Trade figures of the Export for the year 1903 of Cotton Goods to HONGKONG and CHINA as compared with the previous year show the following results.

Grey Cottons	decreased in quantity	24%	and in value	16½%
Bleached Cottons	"	26½%	"	22½%
Printed Cottons	increased	12½%	"	15%
Dyed Cottons	"	9½%	"	14.6%
Total of above	decreased	17%	"	7½%
Cotton Yarn	"	27%	"	10½%

The discrepancy in the percentage between the quantity and value of Yarns is significant, and plainly shows either that Manufacturers must have been supplied with raw Cotton for weaving purposes at moderate rates or Spinners of Export Yarn were able to command relatively much higher prices than the Weavers.

There is very little reliable news of the NEW YORK market, enquiries for quotations only evoking quite impossible prices. The trade will have to eke out what there is here already, for a fair quantity of the goods ordered in the late Autumn were resold in NEW YORK, and since the 19th October the shipments to CHINA have only been 8,353 packages, a portion of which arrived before the close of last year.

The market for INDIAN Yarns has been active at an advance, a fair quantity of No. 10s. being taken for TIENTSIN and CNEFOO and the balance for the RIVER PORTS. Local spinnings are neglected.

STATISTICS—On iv page we give a comparative Statement of the deliveries to the Yangtze Ports for the last nine years. HANKOW was the only one to show any material progress, the increase in Cotton Yarns and Dyed Cottons being very noticeable, while all other goods were fairly well up to the average.

Piece Goods.—So many of the Import houses confine themselves now to a purely indent business that current transactions in spot cargo are greatly restricted. In MANCHESTER makes a total of 1,500 packages about covers the sales from first hands, the bulk of which comprises Medium S.-Lb Shirtings. The sales in these that have reached us are:—Blue Crab £2.60, Blue Flower Pot and Red Church £2.85, Blue Joss £2.99, Green Dragon and 5 Men £2.95, Punch £3.00, Blue Dragon and 7 Child £3.02½, and Painted 3 Gong £3.20. Some of the 10-lbs. were John Bull JFF £3.55 and Fisherman £3.60, and in 12-lbs. 36-inch John Bull DDD £4.65 and Soldier AAA £4.70. Auction prices were from one to three per cent lower.

In White Shirtings sales amount to about 300 cases from stock and for early arrival, but we have been unable to glean any particulars, we understand, however, that new chops comprise the bulk of the transactions. These on the average did not decline more than one to two per cent at Auction. Other business in Grey goods has been almost entirely reselling amongst the Natives, of which we hear Peppercell Drills have changed hands at £4.70, and Pelter A, Clifton CCC and Loray A AMERICAN SHEETINGS at £3.95, £4.00 and £4.05 respectively. In FANCY GOODS we are informed 90 cases 3½ lbs. Turkey Reds have been sold on private terms. Fast Blacks sold irregularly at Auction as usual, prices ranging from a mace and a half advance to three mace and a half decline!

Cotton Yarn.—INDIAN—A good demand was met with for these Spinings almost before the regular holidays were over, buyers being very anxious to fill their orders. These were chiefly for No. 10s. for the Northern markets and River, all the others being for the latter markets. No. 10s. and No. 12s. show an advance of a tael and No. 20s. a tael and a half, No. 16s. being steady at previous prices, the sales amounting to 8,413 bales as follows.

No. 6s. 50 bales:—Kohinoor Mill "Kohinoor" £69.00.
No. 10s. 3,893 bales:—Hindustan (New Chop) and Madhomjee Dharams £71.75, Hongkong Mill £72.75, Alliance (Two Peacock) £73.00, Soonderdas (Mule) £73.50, Jafferalli (Ring) £74.00/74.50, Gold Mohur £74.50/75.00, Hope Mill £75.50/76.00, Sun Mill Ltd. £75.00/76.50, Presidency £76.00/76.50, Anglo-India (Mule), Bombay Cotton Mill (Jewandas) Mule and Globe Mill (Cat and Butterfly) £77.00, Imperial Mill and Jubilee (Mule) £76.50/77.30, Sorab Mill £77.25/77.50, Tea Carrier £77.50, Empress Mill £77.50/78.00, Indo-China (Ring) £78.00/78.25, Tricundass (Mule) £78.50, Pabaney (Ring) £77.25/79.00, Textile Mill £78.75/79.50, Soadeshi Mill (Ring) Kose £80.00/81.00 and Kohinoor Mill "Kohinoor" £80.00/81.50.

No. 12s. 1,130 bales:—Jam Manufacturing Co., £75.50, Gold Mohur £76.00, Good Luck £77.75, Hope Mill and Standard Mill £79.00, Lukhmiddass Khimjee £78.75/79.75, Damoder Lukhmiddass and Indo-China (Mule) £80.00/80.50, Jamshed (Mule) Compass £80.00/81.25, Pabaney (Mule) £81.00/82.00 and David Mill £82.00.

No. 16s. 2,110 bales:—Britannia (Ring) £82.50/83.50, Anglo-India (Mule) and Imperial Mill £83.50, Tea Carrier £83.75/84.00, Britannia (Mule) £84.00, Bombay Cotton Mill (Jewandas) Mule £84.75, E. D. Sassoon Alexandra Pagoda £86.00, Western India (Pony Carriage) £86.25, E. D. Sassoon Shepherd £90.00, E. D. Sassoon Ancestral Workshop and E. D. Sassoon Drum and Bell £92.00.

No. 20s. 1,230 bales:—Moon Mill £87.75, Alliance (Two Peacock), Crown and Saraswati (Gold Grape) £88.00, Damoder Lukhmiddass £88.25, Goolambaba £88.50, Empress Mill and Lukhmiddass Khimjee £88.75, China Mill £87.50/89.00, Queen Mill (Lion and Ball) £89.00, Jubilee (Ring) £88.50/89.75, Textile Mill £90.00, Currimbhoy (Mule) £89.75/91.00, Ripon (Ring) £91.00 and Alliance Ring (Chicken and Deer) £92.50.

The s.s. Ballarat. brought to this market 4,355 bales.

JAPANESE—Prices are down a further half a tael, at which about 1,000 bales have changed hands—No. 16s. £85.50/88.50 and No. 20s. £91.50/95.50.

LOCAL—There have been no sales by the Mills and resales of bundles are tael lower for the best spinnings, namely No. 12s. £81.00/84.00, No. 14s. £83.00/85.50 and No. 16s. £85.00/87.00.

COTTON—A few small purchases have been made at £21.60 for Shanghai Ordinary and £23.00 for Best Steam Machine Ginnea. Merchants are paying the farmers about £21.00 for Shanghai Ordinary and \$10/10½ for Seed.

EXPORT.

Silk.—From Messrs. A. R. Burkill & Son's Circular, 25th of February.

The home markets are quiet.

RAW SILK.—Since our last circular dated February 11th, business has been practically suspended owing to China New Year holidays. Gold Killing which opened after the holidays at 480, has since advanced to 505; the market closing firm.

YELLOW SILK.—A small business only to report prices rather easier.

HAND FILATURES.—A few small transactions are reported for Europe.

STEAM FILATURES.—Are neglected.

WASTE SILK.—Supplies of all kinds are exceedingly small and the fluctuations of exchange makes business almost impossible.

Quotations in Taels per picul: Average Exchange for the week 2/9½ and Fcs. 3 52. 4 m/s. Freight 8.20 per cwt.

		Tls. per picul.			Tls. per picul.
TSATLEES.—			HAND FILATURES.—		
Gold Kiling	505		Buffalo B. C. Ord.	620/610	
Chay Kiling	485		S.S.S. Mars I ,, ...	600	
Almond Flower I & 2	465/440		YELLOW SILK.—		
Mountain 5	505		Kopun	350/365	
Bird Seeling	490		Szechong	290	
HANCHOW TSATLEE.—			Mienchew	406½	
Pagoda Extra	470		Fooyung C. K. I, II, III	430/410/390	
Almond Flower and Stork I	465				

		1903-1904.	1902-1903.	1901-1902.	1900-1901.	1899-1900.	1898-99.
Settlements for this mail	about	500	200	1,500	800	50	500 bales
" season including		50,000	55,000	77,000	62,800	93,000	72,000 "
forward contracts		13,500	3,500	9,000	13,500	7,500	1,100 "
Stock		64,000	58,700	81,860	72,821	100,000	70,500 "
Total Arrivals, including Steam							
Filature							
		*England.	*France &c.	Total Europe.	America.	India & Egypt.	Japan, Coast & Straits.
Export of Steam Filatures pls.	7	5,290	5,297	1,469	3	6	6,775 bales.
" White Silk in Bales) of 80 catties)	844	13,810	14,654	4,420	1,438	602	21,114 "
" Yellow Silk in piculs... ..	20	4,134	4,154	10	4,464	650	9,278 "
" Wild " " "	66	8,631	8,697	1,846	134	392	11,069 "
Total	937	31,865	32,802	7,745	6,039	1,650	48,236 .
Against in 1902-1903	1,114	33,490	34,604	13,597	4,269	1,605	54,075 "
" 1901-1902	3,399	46,555	49,954	14,385	8,637	2,937	75,983 "
" 1900-1901	2,703	39,646	42,349	5,630	11,443	1,874	61,296 "
" 1899-1900	6,497	56,579	63,076	16,153	7,210	5,127	91,566 "
" 1898-99	2,275	52,731	55,066	8,643	5,730	1,542	10,931
" 1897-98	1,912	43,914	45,826	9,951	4,696	2,209	62,682 "
Export of Waste Silk	9,069	42,545	51,554	489	306	867	53,216 piculs.
Against in 1902-1903	9,436	34,442	43,878	204	203	85	44,370 "
" 1901-1902	7,582	38,747	46,329	37	28	29	46,343 "
" 1900-1901	9,746	28,960	38,715	...	52	57	38,824 "
Export Cocoons	151	6,590	6,741	...	...	5,971	12,712 "
Against in 1902-1903	...	3,571	3,571	...	...	5,612	9,183 "
" 1901-1902	...	2,120	2,120	...	2	2,934	5,056 "
" 1900-1901	...	1,563	1,563	...	...	4,142	5,705 "

*Many shipments are now sent optional, Marseilles or London
Also ... piculs Old Silk Wadding to London.

" 1,922 " " " Continent.

1,922

Exchange.—(Closing Rates)—On London—Telegraphic Transfers, 2s. 7½d. Bank Bills, demand 2s. 7½d. Bank Bills, 4 months' sight, 2s. 8½d. First-Class Credits to Banks, 4 months' sight, 2s. 8½d. 6 months' sight, 2s. 8½d. Private and Documentary, 4 months' sight, 2s. 8½d. 6 months' sight, 2s. 8½d. On France—Bank Bills, Transfer, Fcs. 3.33. Credits and Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight, 3.42; 6 months' sight, 3.44. On Germany—Credits and Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight, Marks 2.37, lowest 2.78½, highest 2.90. On New York—Credits and Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight, per Tls. 100, Gold \$70½, lowest 66½, highest 70. On Hongkong—Telegraphic Transfers, per \$100 Tls. 70, lowest 71½, highest 68½. On Yokohama—Telegraphic Transfers, per Yen 100 Tls. 72, lowest 76½, highest 72. Private Bills, 15 days' sight, per Yen 100 Tls. 70½, lowest 75½, highest 70. On Bombay and Calcutta—Telegraphic Transfers per Tls. 100 Rs. 210, lowest 196, highest 208. Bank Bills, demand, per Tls. 100 Rs. 210½, lowest 196½, highest 208½. Gold Bars, Shanghai, 98 touch, per Tls. 10, Tls. 370.50, lowest 361.00, highest 372.50. Silver Bars, per Tls. 100, Tls. 111.25, lowest 111.25, highest 111.25. Mexican dollars, per \$100, Tls. 72.725, lowest 72.6, highest 72.9. Copper Cash per Tls. 1,150, lowest 1,100, highest 1,150. Chinese Interest, Mace. 18, lowest .03, highest 18. Bar Silver in London, per oz., 26½, lowest 26½, highest 27½.

DAILY QUOTATIONS.
(From Messrs. Morris & Robertson's Circular.)

(From Messrs. Morris & Robertson's Circular.)																
	Bar Silver of in L'don.	ON LONDON.								FRANCE.		GER- MANY.	NEW YORK.	YOKO- HAMA.	INDIA.	
		T/Transfers.		Bank 4 m/s.		Credits 4 m/s.		Docty. 4 m/s.		frances 4 m/s. and 6 do.		4 m/s. Priv.	Docty. 4 m/s.	HONG- KONG.	I/T	T/T Rup.
		Lowest.	Highest.	Lowest.	Highest.	Lowest.	Highest.	Lowest.	Highest.	Lowest.	Highest.					
Feb.	2.6½	...	2.9½	...	2.10½	2.10½	2.10½	2.10½	3.60/3.64	3.62/3.64	2.90	70	68½	72	202½/208	
13th	...	2.8½	2.9½	2.8½	2.9½	2.9½	2.9½	2.9½	3.50½/3.52½	3.53/3.55	2.85/87	68/68½	71½	74/74½	200/203	
15th	...	China New Year's Holiday				...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
22nd	2.7½	2.8½	2.8½	2.8½	2.8½	2.9½	2.9½	2.9½	3.50½/3.52½	3.50½/3.52½	2.85	68	71½	74½	201/201½	
23rd	...	...	...	...	...	2.9½	2.9½	2.8½	3.50/3.52	3.50/3.52	...	...	...	...	...	
24th	...	2.8	3.8½	2.8½	2.8½	2.9½	2.9½	2.8½	3.48/3.50	3.48½/3.50½	2.84	67½	71½	75	200/201	
25th	2.6½	2.7½	2.8½	2.8½	2.8½	2.8½	2.8½	2.8½	3.43/3.45	3.46/3.48	2.82/79	67/66½	...	75½/76½	199/197	
26th	2.8½	2.7½	2.7½	...	2.8½	...	2.8½	...	3.42/3.44	3.42/3.44	2.78½	66½	71½	76½	196	

Statement of Imports and Deliveries of Cotton and Woollen Piece Goods for the week ending 24th February, 1904, compiled from the "Customs Daily Returns," Nos. 35 to 42 both numbers inclusive.

GOODS.	RE-EXPORTS AND THEIR DESTINATIONS.															
	Ningpo.	Wenchow.	Chinkiang.	Wuhu.	Kiukiang.	Hankow.	Iohang & Chungking.	Chefoo.	Tientsin.	Kinochoo.	Nan king.	Hongkong.	Foochow.	Japan.	Corea.	Port Arthur.
Grey Shirtings, European...Pcs.	1,175	555	25,417	2445	4499	45,576	...	200	4,100	225	2,120	...	240	...	...	8,000
do. American.....	...	...	360	760	480	1,600	...	...	200	...	280	...	...	...	...	600
T-Cloths, 32-in.	...	160	2,470	250	295	3,075	...	...	410	200	...	...	...	...	...	400
do. 36-in.	...	...	50	670	30	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	300
do. Indian, 32 & 36-in.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100
White Shirtings, European	860	400	7,119	1394	3899	23,130	50	550	2,245	200	286	...	...	...	...	2,500
do. American.....	...	...	615	40	...	435	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	30
Drills, Eng. & Indian	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	40
do. Dutch	...	...	525	45	60	2,955	...	...	1,875	...	15	...	...	...	...	500
do. American	75	90	560	...	520	1,920	...	640	550	...	161	...	...	...	...	250
Jeans, Eng. & Indian	...	...	...	...	20	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	150
do. Dutch	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	?
do. American	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	400
Sheetings, English	...	...	1,520	1470	1280	1,840	...	...	...	...	250	...	...	...	...	50
do. Indian	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,000
do. American.....	200	...	360	60	100	...	...	600	3,100	300	860	...	...	...	...	500
Dyed Cottons	...	...	117	40	430	86	...	50	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	600
Printed Cottons	...	30	5,031	275	1,877	4,852	...	210	300	450	97	300	...	...	...	250
Fancy Woven Cottons	...	...	80	...	...	1,501	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	300
Turkey Red Shirtings	200	1,380	305	540	2,434	...	...	225	1,300	275	185	...	...	...	...	60
Velvets	52	...	50	...	223	790	...	...	...	...	52	...	...	...	...	30
Velveteens	...	...	600	1040	1469	1,800	...	...	...	...	400	...	...	...	...	2,500
Handkerchiefs	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	488	...	...	...	...	...	...	400
Muslins	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	300
Lenos & Balzarines	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	450
Cotton Yarn, Indian	108	9	9,735	498	4269	27,306	...	144	2,016	1179	96	...	...	...	...	30
do. English	...	...	57	...	111	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	200
do. Japan	180	16	945	559	379	13,860	...	155	932	1520	1,520	9	...	...	...	?
do. Shanghai	47	61	306	...	438	2,773	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100
Spanish Stripes, Woollen...Pcs.	...	...	106	6	103	159	...	6	...	...	24	...	...	...	...	100
do. Cotton	24	...	405	...	13	237	...	...	96	48	24	...	...	...	...	100
Medium & Broad Cloths	6	6	18	6	...	198	...	...	...	...	6	...	...	...	...	20
Russian Cloth	...	...	...	...	64	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	80
Camlets	20	100	10	...	230	610	...	...	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	120
Long Ells	20	234	170	505	1,400	...	...	...	20	...	...	...	...	...	...	140
Lastings	20	50	...	80	450	...	...	...	100	...	...	...	...	...	...	120
Italian Cloth	...	...	150	...	425	...	...	...	...	...	30	...	...	...	...	700
Cot. Last. & Ital. Coloured	86	107	6,949	364	2164	11,400	...	160	353	93	248	...	...	...	...	500
Cotton Italians Fast Black	120	291	3,010	610	1331	8,226	...	220	1,184	300	400	...	...	...	...	200
Cotton Flannels American..	120	20	80	80	80	80	...	...	...	...	30	...	...	...	...	150
do. European	...	...	30	...	150	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100
do. Japan	48	...	150	68	40	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	240
Kerosene Oil, American...Cases	2,000	200	31,000	6650	1000	12,000	...	1,000	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
do. Russian	1000	1,000	6000	100	29,480	...	...	1,000	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

TOTAL DELIVERIES.

TOTAL IMPORTS.

Stocks at date are based on the Chamber of Commerce Returns on 31st December, 1903.

GOODS	TOTAL DELIVERIES.			TOTAL IMPORTS.				Stocks at date are based on the Chamber of Commerce Returns on 31st December, 1903.	
	As above.	For the year from 1st Jan., 1904	Against last year to same term.	For the week	In Bond	For the year from 1st Jan., 1904.	Against last year to same term.	*At date Estimated.	Against 24th Feb., 1904.
Grey Shirtings, European...Pcs.	94,452	199,735	344,573	75,408	...	255,883	139,154	1,294,117	1,805,884
do. American.....	4,280	9,480	18,150	...	...	9,000	13,950	41,260	216,220
-Cloths, 32-in.	7,260	22,296	45,055	3,709	...	20,614	22,726	227,828	254,097
do. 36-in.	1,050	3,730	5,600	4,400	...	14,336	1,690	52,932	28,262
do. Indian, 32 & 36-in.	100	580	1,600	...	...	...	...	8,730	25,235
White Shirtings, European	44,243	94,655	140,614	53,235	...	134,718	46,912	714,119	1,299,970
do. American.....	30	170	570	60	...	60	...	5,000	1,956
Drills, English & Indian...	1,440	3,290	5,250	...	...	1,157	473	23,483	40,318
do. Dutch	40	170	970	...	...	...	...	623	2,536
do. American	6,140	12,420	45,000	7,500	...	7,500	30,765	35,205	298,225
Jeans, English & Indian...	4,601	7,551	7,640	3,209	...	10,629	4,334	22,236	87,136
do. Dutch	150	1,240	1,400	...	...	...	...	12,470	10,600
do. American	20	1,050	5,870	4,000	...	4,000	...	?	27,350
Sheetings, English	6,760	13,902	27,531	15,988	...	33,179	15,409	84,792	86,425
do. Indian	50	740	2,700	...	...	...	...	3,190	31,320
do. American.....	6,580	42,570	99,630	23,100	...	23,100	21,100	1,206,520	1,577,625
Dyed Cottons	1,223	4,493	5,418	2,940	...	9,144	6,143	12,319	100,512
Printed Cottons	14,022	37,465	46,052	14,778	...	48,858	83,276	608,832	405,949
Fancy Woven Cottons	1,831	3,800	4,638	627	...	1,470	1,893	38,235	26,506
Turkey Red Shirtings	7,144	16,236	34,702	5,015	...	13,261	6,346	138,630	39,171
Velvets	1,227	2,379	1,880	1,092	...	3,096	2,460	16,741	21,249
Velveteens	70	295	552	176	...	336	428	8,089	8,316
Handkerchiefs	7,809	22,874	22,170	6,300	...	55,588	6,568	258,256	209,093
Muslins	888	2,688	12,400	6,326	...	12,924	4,096	119,318	162,208
Lenos & Balzarines	300	1,500	3,620	...	...	...	8,189	17,417	19,480
Cotton Yarn, Indian	45,810	76,919	73,927	24,420	...	82,884	75,159	214,003	286,180
do. English	201	471	675	...	...	549	375	3,009	200
do. Japan	18,755	36,386	26,222	20,980	...	41,086	32,149	24,398	24,925
do. Shanghai	3,625	7,544	5,762	...	...	...	...	?	?
Spanish Stripes, Woollen...Pcs.	504	1,598	1,784	876	...	2,210	411	10,750	13,544
do. Cotton	940	2,624	2,384	856	...	2,019	643	9,990	10,233
Medium & Broad Cloths	340	893	1,466	227	...	523	93	10,768	12,472
Russian Cloth	84	184	...	...	...	...	...	2,736	...
Camlets	1,060	2,349	2,660	550	...	3,190	680	5,330	5,720
Long Ells	2,469	4,139	4,265	1,460	...	5,635	3,055	16,096	20,850
Lastings	840	2,060	3,130	262	...	3,201	1,370	19,590	15,211
Italian Cloth	725	1,325	3,799	607	...	2,497	...	11,862	23,920
Cot. Last. & Ita. Coloured	22,624	49,496	34,865	20,773	...	86,899	22,293	280,150	392,783
Cotton Italians Fast Black	16,192	38,471	61,148	19,126	...	77,852	17,199	248,504	322,837
Cotton Flannels American..	660	2,540	3,820	5,140	...	12,260	...	10,880	26,060
do. European	360	1,361	1,275	3,550	...	5,231	...	6,895	3,026
do. Japan	406	1,554	30	...	...	3,366	...	1,932	...
Kerosene Oil, American Cases	56,250	139,575	34,400	1,184,490	...	4,389,030	...	600,000	1,298,600
do. Russian	38,580	122,435	8,050	990,000	...	1,430,000	...	?	?

* Exclusive of undeclared Import Cargoes per:—Yarra, Moyune, Glaucus, Coptic, Porneo, Seydlitz, Ajax, Australien, Empress of Japan, Ballarat, Bamberg, Kennebec, Tjilatjap, Peking, Idomenus, Roon and Merionethshire.

Import Cargoes declared during the interval:—Ernest Simon, Malta, Kintuck, Glengyle, Macduff, Gera, Shkhonia, Siberia, Albange and Socotra.

†Including English and Dutch 12 lbs.

Comparative Statement of Deliveries of Cotton and Woollen Piece Goods to the principal Yangtze Ports during the Nine years 1895 to 1903, as published in the Customs Annual and Daily Returns.

CHINKIANG.									
Goods.	1903.	1902.	1901.	1900.	1899.	1898.	1897.	1896.	1895.
Grey Shirtings, European	484,596	529,974	561,891	471,528	573,258	546,045	761,060	776,584	747,255
American	23,730	17,935	57,654	68,566	64,639	74,275	125,832	103,884	87,224
T-Cloths	60,766	60,072	89,347	69,237	77,661	64,713	80,762	84,643	92,129
White Shirtings, European	127,439	117,949	112,151	13,215	15,894	14,845	29,294	43,969	35,655
American	650	100	11,215	13,215	15,894	14,845	29,294	43,969	35,655
Drills, English and Dutch	13,640	22,735	80,143	49,597	49,985	57,735	71,135	42,170	44,786
American	105,075	84,750	71,993	80,878	76,760	85,301	76,998	87,999	71,862
Sheetings, English and Indian	12,780	66,678	6,810	6,810	6,730	9,370	7,465	9,935	4,865
American	44,220	31,805	17,560	16,146	68,066	61,028	101,560	111,441	99,206
Printed Cottons	30,517	104,297	80,383	1,970	1,494	1,158	2,511	1,840	3,981
Velvets and Velveteens	3,304	3,022	2,508	1,970	1,494	1,158	2,511	1,840	3,981
Cotton Yarn, Indian	242,560	173,407	192,786	116,323	146,497	104,565	88,314	9,545	76,669
English	933	774	1,296	276	2,169	564	1,107	843	645
Japan	10,794	1,686	2,761	13,486	10,865	7,458	5,349	306	456
Chinese	4,669*	7,218*	14,702*	12,336*	4,281*	3,432*	18,549*	2,052*	882*
Spanish Stripes, Woollen	3,000	2,544	2,766	2,034	3,121	3,432	5,179	4,990	6,580
Medium and Broad Cloths	592	369	370	405	745	744	902	1,160	2,574
Camlets	450	870	1,480	1,340	1,810	930	1,926	1,980	2,574
Long Ells	4,745	4,470	5,380	3,235	4,210	3,130	5,885	6,845	8,820
Lastings	1,440	1,093	2,510	990	2,340	1,961	2,907	2,648	3,390
Italian Cloth	3,240	4,194	4,597	3,412	8,456	8,510	12,228	10,848	13,064
Cott. Last. and Ita. Fig. & Dyed ..	100,406	10,315	44,621	79,395	95,265	81,127	90,132	86,111	90,412
do. do. do. Plain	81,230	148,022	81,050						

WUHU.

Goods.	1903.	1902.	1901.	1900.	1899.	1898.	1897.	1896.	1895.
Grey Shirtings, European	116,118	71,450	121,331	100,196	145,848	77,490	125,716	131,555	110,762
American	83,795	20,789	10,161	15,230	22,454	13,531	19,651	22,105	15,025
T-Cloths	7,885	6,570	52,263	40,451	57,698	34,061	33,180	40,503	34,366
White Shirtings, European	83,593	61,588	4,005	4,625	5,356	2,750	6,820	7,035	3,920
American	200	10,645	13,895	12,240	15,900	9,770	6,210	5,330	4,512
Drills, English and Dutch	4,490	13,060	56,842	90,465	23,631	84,133	67,484	70,981	39,430
American	30,506	55,268	4,285	1,450	1,680	1,280	40	20	
Sheetings, English and Indian	14,868	26,700	17,329	23,424	23,272	14,061	20,389	30,345	15,038
American	27,395	13,864	462	510	800	435	990	510	1,205
Printed Cottons	26,552	773	462	510	800	435	990	510	1,205
Velvets and Velveteens	773	38,881	31,405	19,849	47,184	8,646	3,789	9,738	6,433
Cotton Yarn, Indian	33,465	3	21	39	582	309	150	163	111
English	3	69	21	39	582	309	150	163	111
Japan	14,371	9,177	12,096	10,410	12,001	2,959	9,052	948	474
Chinese	2,350*	6,143*	11,245*	18,449*	4,412*	1,634*	1,173*	9*	21*
Spanish Stripes, Woollen	1,457	818	1,392	834	1,440	1,634	1,619	1,980	1,210
Medium and Broad Cloths	492	238	269	334	748	508	482	706	414
Camlets	1,380	1,130	1,580	1,700	2,280	1,559	1,870	2,488	2,236
Long Ells	7,345	5,460	6,485	5,550	9,110	7,230	6,065	8,160	6,045
Lastings	690	660	1,246	780	470	580	570	610	220
Italian Cloth	26,703	1,340	13,264	21,700	29,792	16,451	13,108	15,116	10,332
Cott. Last. and Ita. Fig. & Dyed ..	25,820	32,783	13,759						
do. do. do. Plain									

KIUKIANG.

Goods.	1903.	1902.	1901.	1900.	1899.	1898.	1897.	1896.	1895.
Grey Shirtings, European	109,498	108,378	130,241	113,821	170,393	173,166	189,501	182,399	147,360
American	14,650	11,810	15,460	15,493	29,536	27,918	29,033	27,670	18,697
T-Cloths	10,130	11,580	15,460	15,493	29,536	27,918	29,033	27,670	18,697
White Shirtings, European	112,557	96,671	87,109	69,311	77,720	79,313	78,816	71,800	56,901
American	275	4,390	4,220	5,475	4,430	2,755	5,370	4,325	1,965
Drills, English and Dutch	3,035	12,210	13,330	9,570	7,845	7,590	5,411	4,460	2,970
American	10,360	36,306	52,024	47,554	79,052	64,645	52,638	57,028	26,658
Sheetings, English and Indian	24,245	17,220	8,655	4,870	5,400	2,260	3,335	80	210
American	22,353	19,048	18,106	14,517	25,474	26,028	32,940	25,721	17,439
Printed Cottons	3,033	2,611	2,256	2,216	2,256	2,148	362	1,260	2,736
Velvets and Velveteens	123,045	112,328	83,481	42,942	49,834	45,529	50,633	55,562	43,877
Cotton Yarn, Indian	222	555	289	867	1,952	1,690	1,300	1,200	2,261
English	10,724	7,180	17,437	38,551	51,731	23,267	11,738	1,333	3,328
Japan	13,151*	26,188*	30,760*	32,872*	36,459*	3,255*	14,331*	3,225*	2,310*
Chinese	1,714	2,618	2,741	1,966	1,894	3,255	3,706	4,122	3,304
Spanish Stripes, Woollen	1,015	855	870	520	930	1,366	734	1,222	916
Medium and Broad Cloths	2,960	854	2,770	3,530	3,870	3,780	2,160	5,080	4,490
Camlets	5,055	5,212	6,006	4,930	5,642	6,120	4,850	7,255	5,955
Long Ells	600	800	980	1,220	1,760	2,170	2,940	2,640	2,920
Lastings	580	300	837	378	580	5,017	2,060	1,766	1,848
Italian Cloth	28,449	1,741	26,036	28,373	34,572	26,020	21,183	3,100	11,601
Cott. Last. and Ita. Fig. & Dyed ..	23,112	46,904	15,084						
do. do. do. Plain									

HANKOW.

Goods.	1903.	1902.	1901.	1900.	1899.	1898.	1897.	1896.	1895.
Grey Shirtings, European	1,223,992	1,229,707	945,511	904,842	1,356,137	996,542	1,341,399	1,280,698	1,421,672
American	55,194	39,165	91,874	94,759	114,503	77,235	118,753	123,598	122,444
T-Cloths	104,860	115,407	91,874	450,424	509,799	439,539	540,712	466,853	506,958
White Shirtings, European	676,047	598,232	462,841	450,424	509,799	439,539	540,712	466,853	506,958
American	205	30	14,526	13,280	17,991	11,496	33,326	27,457	23,818
Drills, English and Dutch	18,358	25,049	215,210	103,831	127,770	188,275	167,470	166,885	67,455
American	260,600	259,650	138,866	103,742	128,936	102,490	107,671	130,379	69,686
Sheetings, English and Indian	49,851	126,192	35,440	40,570	33,519	14,195	2,065	1,600	776
American	66,100	56,730	182,221	150,064	141,510	56,891	164,131	189,334	193,620
Printed Cottons	261,303	215,224	9,854	8,512	6,746	5,694	8,816	9,790	17,916
Velvets and Velveteens	12,361	11,108	225,105	137,867	225,953	148,127	179,813	233,498	192,615
Cotton Yarn, Indian	383,562	281,620	1,492	11,646	9,739	12,210	13,101	16,356	
English	2,259	8,410	3,670	219,481	238,145	30,555	52,087	3,589	90
Japan	99,064	224,457	193,960	81,177*	99,731*	6,205*	30,368*	4,551*	75*
Chinese	41,736*	61,133*	46,068*	4,111	6,606	625	8,481	10,720	10,691
Spanish Stripes, Woollen	4,970	5,947	9,506	4,576	5,070	4,637	6,476	9,203	8,633
Medium and Broad Cloths	8,240	5,381	6,659	14,118	14,660	12,942	19,297	22,571	27,124
Camlets	16,633	15,950	17,721	20,070	23,720	17,785	25,175	26,655	6,785
Long Ells	29,685	24,575	29,340	20,070	23,720	9,378	20,860	20,261	30,160
Lastings	11,810	7,957	12,474	7,732	24,826	19,883	18,378	30,026	26,147
Italian Cloth	9,237	25,435	30,668	11,501					
Cott. Last. and Ita. Fig. & Dyed ..	286,450	17,053	198,566	267,85	295,857	185,957	196,099	243,726	220,701
do. do. do. Plain	296,469	417,729	196,719						